

U. S. Department of Justice

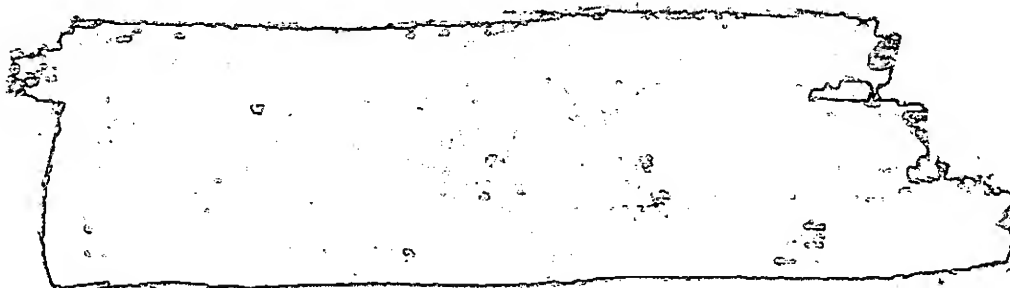
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F. O. I. P. A.

REQUEST

DO NOT DESTROY UNTIL 1-27-83

FEDERAL BUREAU



F. O. I. P. A.  
INVESTIGATION  
REQUEST 190-JN-26836

DO NOT DESTROY UNTIL 2/2006  
Bureau File Number

DO NOT DESTROY — 157-9586  
PENDING LITIGATION See  
197-2-1p. 3223

See also Nos.

CLASSIFICATION NO.

157-9586 S71

News up open

Clipboard

Volume Number

Serials

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Alleged Police, FBI Plot To Kill King Investigated

By **BILL HENDRICK**

Associated Press Writer

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — The House Select Committee on Assassinations is investigating allegations from a man who claims several members of a police department and FBI agents plotted to kill Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Rep. Gene Snyder, R-Ky., said Saturday.

Snyder said he met the man "face to face" and that "he appeared to be rational, a logical kind of man."

Snyder said he got a letter from the man and listened to a tape the man said he made of the alleged assassination plot. Snyder refused to say whether the man or the police department involved were in Kentucky.

**ASKED WHY** the man contacted him and him listen to a copy of the tape reading, Snyder said, "He may have just been looking for someone with nerve, a

Snyder read part of the letter and used the word "blank" where the man had used names.

"I retired from (blank) police department in (blank) after serving (blank) years," Snyder quoted the letter as saying. "While I was in the police department I was innocently involved in a conspiracy to assassinate Dr. Martin Luther King."

"Involved in this conspiracy were agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, agents (blank), (blank) and (blank) and others that I did not know," Snyder said, continuing to read the letter. "Members of the (blank) police department, chief of detectives, captain (blank), lieutenant (blank), officer (blank), lieutenant (blank) of the homicide bureau and president of the FOP sergeant (blank)."

**FOP STANDS** for Fraternal Order of Police, an organization for police officers.

Snyder said he could not divulge the names listed in the letter or the identity of the man who contacted him.

"What I'm saying," Snyder said, "is those blanks need to be protected if there's nothing to this. And if it is an accurate allegation that he's made, then the author of the letter needs to be protected. The committee is investigating it."

In Washington, an FBI spokesman said, "Anything on assassinations we have to say 'no comment' because it is before a congressional committee."

**SNYDER SAID** the man "indicates further in the letter that after he retired he contacted who he says is James Earl Ray's attorney. ..."

Ray is serving 99 years in prison for the assassination of the civil rights leader slain in Memphis, Tenn., in 1968.

Snyder said the former policeman

claimed he was offered \$500,000 on two occasions to kill King.

Richard A. Sprague, the Philadelphia attorney who is chief counsel for the assassinations committee, confirmed Snyder had turned over material containing the allegation.

**THE MATTER** you refer to has been referred to the committee and is under investigation," Sprague said.

The former policeman, Snyder said, tried to turn over a tape recording of the alleged \$500,000 offer to Ray's attorneys but finally was asked by one of the attorneys' investigators "where he planned to hide if he tried to do anything with the tape."

Snyder said he has discussed the allegation with Rep. Samuel L. Devine of Ohio, the ranking minority member of the committee. Devine, a former FBI agent, checked into the man's background and

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 8

THE CLARION-LEDGER

JACKSON, MS.

Date: 3/20/77

Edition: HOME

Author: BILL HENDRICK

Editor: T.M. HEDERMAN, JR

Title: MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586-SF 196

Submitting Office: JACKSON

☐ Being InvestigatedSEARCHED \_\_\_\_\_ INDEXED \_\_\_\_\_  
SERIALIZED \_\_\_\_\_ FILED \_\_\_\_\_

MAR 21 1977

FBI-JACKSON

found him to be a "solid citizen," Snyder said.

Snyder said the man told him the offers for him to kill King were made in his automobile, where he had a tape recorder. Snyder quoted the man as saying he had two tapes, one of which was either stolen or lost. The other tape was turned over to the committee, Snyder said.

**SNYDER SAID** he listened to a copy of that tape. "Most of it was inaudible to me," he said. "I could make out a little. I made out enough to believe and ascertain that a discussion was being had about King and money, but I didn't even listen to all of it." Snyder said he wants the allegation to be thoroughly investigated and this guy ought to be protected from any problems. If it is inaccurate, then those people who he names need to be protected.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Defense Says Ray Framed In Killing

MEMPHIS (AP) — Attorneys for James Earl Ray said Tuesday there was a reasonable belief that James Earl Ray was part of the conspiracy to kill Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. but that evidence "eliminates any reasonable belief" that Ray was part of it.

In a brief filed in U.S. District Court, the attorneys said "evidence now points to the fact that James Earl Ray was framed for a crime he didn't commit."

"The evidence increasingly indicates that law enforcement officials, both state and federal, have covered up the evidence of this frameup," Ray's attorneys said.

"There was a conspiracy

to kill Dr. King... but evidence eliminates any reasonable belief that James Earl Ray was part of the conspiracy."

Ray's attorneys, James Lesar and Bernard Fensterwald, Washington, D.C., based their allegation of a frameup on their claim that the bullet taken from King's body could be traced to a rifle other than one found on the street near a downtown rooming house from which authorities say the fatal shot was fired April 4, 1968. Police have said the rifle discovered near the slaying scene bore Ray's fingerprints and was the murder weapon.

Ray's attorneys made their arguments in response to a brief filed by the state contending that Ray made a "reasoned and reasonable" decision to plead guilty to killing King in order to avoid the death penalty.

U.S. District Court Judge Robert M. McRae Jr. held an eight-day hearing two months ago on whether Ray is entitled to withdraw his guilty plea and stand trial for murder. Ray, now serving a 99-year prison sentence, says he was pressured into the guilty plea on March 10, 1969.

McRae is expected to rule within a month.

In their brief, Lesar and Fensterwald said: "A Watergate-type coverup of the assassination of Dr. King continues until this day. That and that alone explains the frenzied efforts of the state to obstruct an examination of the physical evidence by petitioner's investigator and counsel."

An FBI firearms expert has said the fatal bullet fragment was so mutilated that he could not say to the exclusion of all other similar weapons that it came from the gun found on the street.

Ray has claimed he was lured to the rooming house by a person named "Raoul" and that he did not kill the civil rights leader.

His attorneys made their arguments in response to a brief filed by the state contending that Ray made a "reasoned and reasonable" decision to plead guilty to killing King in order to avoid the death penalty.

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(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

JACKSON DAILY NEWS

JACKSON, MISS.

Date:

12/18/74

Edition:

HOME

Author:

Editor:

JAMES M. WARD

Title:

JAMES EARL RAY

Character:

or

Classification:

157-9586

Submitting Office:

JACKSON

☐ Being Investigated

157-9586-SF1-95

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| SEARCHED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   | INDEXED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| SERIALIZED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | FILED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   |
| DEC 19 1974                                    |                                             |
| FBI-JACKSON                                    |                                             |



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Ballistics Probed At Ray Hearing

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — A firearms expert testified Thursday he did not see how authorities concluded from a nick in a window sill that the assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in 1968 fired the shot from a rooming house bathroom.

Herbert MacDonell, Corning, N.Y., said he could not determine what object caused the nick in the bathroom sill, although authorities theorized that it was made by the recoil of the barrel of a 30-.06 rifle they say was used to kill King.

MacDonell testified for James Earl Ray in the third day of a U.S. District Court hearing on whether Ray is entitled to withdraw his guilty plea in King's death and stand trial for murder.

A key state witness, Charles Quitman Stephens, has said he saw Ray running from the bathroom soon after the slaying April 4, 1968. King was on the balcony of a motel across the street from the rooming house.

Ray's attorneys have introduced statements from other witnesses saying the shot appeared to come from a parking lot or bushes near the rooming house.

MacDonell said the configuration of the window sill nick was such that if it were caused by a rifle muzzle the weapon would have had to been held at such an angle that the butt would have extended several inches into one of the bathroom walls.

MacDonell, professor of criminalistics at Elmira College, said he also thought a ballistics comparison could be made on the bullet fragment taken from King's body. Robert Frazier, an FBI expert, has said the slug was so mutilated that it couldn't be determine whether it came from the rifle found near the rooming house. Officers say Ray's fingerprints were on the rifle.

Another witness, former Dist. Atty. Phil M. Canale, Jr., Ray's trial prosecutor, testified that negotiations for Ray's guilty plea began

about three months before Ray entered the plea March 10, 1969 and shortly after the late public defender Hugh Stanton Sr. was appointed to assist Houston attorney Percy Foreman in Ray's defense.

Canale said no firm negotiations took place until late January or early

February and that he did not make his recommendation for a 99-year sentence until Feb. 1, 1969.

Ray's attorneys have claimed that his constitutional rights were violated because the Sheriff's Department turned over his mail, including mail to his attorneys, to the prosecutor's office.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 2

THE CLARION-LEDGER

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: 10/25/74

Edition: HOME

Author:

Editor: T. M. HEDERMAN, JR.

Title: JAMES EARL RAY

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

JACKSON

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| OCT 25 1974          |                   |
| FBI-JACKSON          |                   |

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## Tougaloo Having King Observance

A former teacher of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. will headline a program in observance of Dr. King's birthday Friday morning at Tougaloo College.

The program is slated for 11 a.m. in Woodworth Chapel.

Dr. Lucious Tobin, the speaker for the occasion, taught the slain civil rights leader at Morehouse College. Serving on the Morehouse faculty for 25 years, Dr. Tobin now works at Benedict College.

Tougaloo's affiliate artist Miss Dwendolin Sims of New York City will also headline the observance, singing several of Dr. King's favorite songs.

Dr. Tobin's topic will be "His Troublesome Presence Challenges this 'Cultured Hell.'"

The speaker earned a degree in sociology at the University of Michigan, the Bachelor of Divinity at Colgate Rochester Divinity School and the honorary Doctor of Divinity degree at Morris College in Sumter, S. C.

He also studied at Virginia Union University; with further study at the Divinity School, University of Chicago and the Union Theological Seminary in New York City.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 2

THE CLARION LEDGER

JACKSON, MISS.

*Orig to Bu*

Date: JAN. 15, 1971

Edition: HOME

Author:

Editor: T. M. HEDERNAN, JR.

Title: Murkin

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586-SFI

Submitting Office: Jackson

☐ Being Investigated

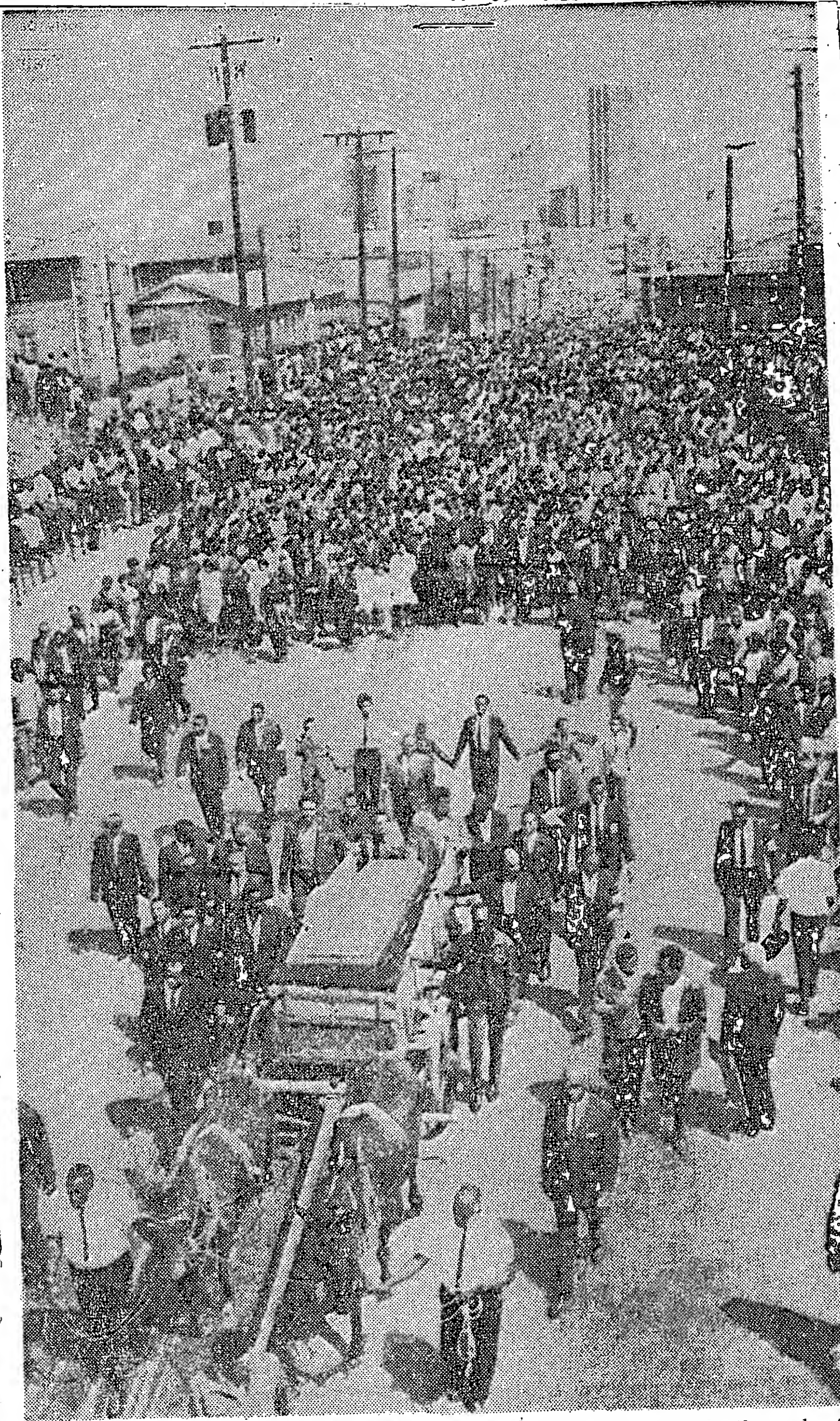
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| FBI-JACKSON |         |

*[Signature]*



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# AN ASSASSIN STRIKES ONCE MORE

—Dr. Martin Luther King met death

at the hands of an assassin in 1968.

His funeral procession through the streets of Atlanta drew this huge crowd of mourners.—AP Wirephoto.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

— Page 2-G

— TheClarion Ledger

— Jackson, Miss.

Date: Dec. 28, 1969

Edition: Home

Author:

Editor: T. M. Hederman, Jr.

Title: Martin Luther King  
(Assination)

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586-SF1

Submitting Office: Jackson

☐ Being Investigated

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| DEC 30 1969 |         |
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**EASTLAND SPURS NEW QUIZ****FBI Checking Conspiracy Angle In King Shooting**

By PAUL SCOTT

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Federal Bureau of Investigation is probing dark new hints of a conspiracy in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King.

The unannounced FBI inquiry was ordered by Director J. Edgar Hoover after Senator James Eastland (D-Miss.) chairman of the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee, turned over a letter he received from James Earl Ray, the convicted King slayer.

In the two-page hand written communication drafted in his prison cell, Ray suggested a conspiracy in King's death by alleging that others in addition to himself were involved.

Significantly, Ray did not try to deny his own participation in the assassination of King, who was slain last year in Memphis as he left his motel room.

**READY TO TALK**

While he gave no specific details in his letter to Senator Eastland, Ray clearly indicated that he was ready to talk if certain conditions for his safety could be agreed upon.

In privately discussing Ray's surprise letter with other members of his Subcommittee, Senator Eastland reported that he decided to turn it over to the FBI after his staff investigators were unable to make any breakthrough in the case.

In addition to requesting the FBI to quiz Ray about the content of the letter, Senator Eastland also suggested the G-

men might want to ask the admitted slayer of King the following questions.

How did you know that King was going to be in the Lorraine Motel on the day of the slaying?

How did you know the location of King's room?

How did you know King would come out on the balcony where he was shot?

How did you know exactly where to go to get a room

from which to fire the fatal shot?

Senator Eastland also wants Hoover to check on Ray's eyesight to determine if it was good enough to have permitted him to fire the fatal shot.

What effect the new FBI inquiry will have on Ray's request for a new trial is conjectural.

Ray's letter, however, has given the FBI the reason they need for questioning the convicted assassin on several aspects of the mystery shrouded case.

For example, the FBI would like to determine if Ray had ever had any direct or indirect contacts with persons close to King including one of his long-time advisers and speech writers.

This "ghost", known to the Federal Bureau of Investigation as one of the top secret communists in the country, was the chief architect of the "Poor People's Campaign" that King was to have led in the nation's capital only days after he was assassinated.

Still incomplete is an FBI investigation of Ray's contacts made in New Orleans before King's assassination and after Ray had escaped from prison.

As reported in this column late in March, Senator Eastland has taken the position that someone inside the motel had to finger King for the assassin.

Since Hoover knows more about the unpublished activities of the late Dr. King and his associates, Senator Eastland believes he is in the best position of anyone in the country to determine if others were involved in the slaying.

**FARM LEGISLATION**

Members of the House Agriculture Committee have begun bringing pressure on the White House for the administration to give more attention to farm legislation.

With the omnibus farm law, the Food and Agriculture Act, set to expire next year, Representative W. R. Poage (D. Tex.), chairman, has sent word to President Nixon that he's likely to get hearings started no later than July.

Up to now, neither the White House nor Agriculture Secretary Clifford M. Hardin has given Congress any type of an Agriculture blue-print on what the Administration favors.

Kept busy on the hunger problem, Hardin is being extremely careful in taking a position in the highly controversial area of farm policy. He has indicated that President Nixon

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 15

Jackson Daily News

Jackson, Miss.

COPY SENT BUREAU

Date: May 19, 1969

Edition: Home

Author:

Editor: James M. Ward

Title: Murkin

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586 SE

Submitting Office: Jackson

☐ Being Investigated

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| MAY 20 1969 |         |
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wants first to search for a consensus among the legislators and farm leaders before proposing any changes in the present law.

Economy-minded White House aides would like to see the agriculture program revised to save money. However, Hardin so far has not supported these proposals.

Robert "Bobby" Baker, whose financial dealing while a Senate aide to former President Johnson caused a major scandal, is cruising the Mediterranean. At the time that his business deals with lobbyists became public, the outgoing Supreme Court Justice Abe Fortas lectured him about being "like Caesar's wife" because of his close relationship with the then Vice President Johnson.....The Nixon Administration's strong stand in the last few weeks against bias in hiring is largely the result of pressure from major corporations.

Many firms, especially those deeply involved in consumer markets such as gasoline and retail store chains, were upset by attacks Sen. Everett McKinley Dirksen (R. Ill.) made on the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) for "unreasonable pressure" it was using on firms to end alleged discriminatory hiring practices.

The appointment of William M. H. Brown, III, a Negro, as chairman of EEOC, has softened criticism of White House policies.....The inside story on the President's recently announced \$1 billion hunger program is that it was never shelved — as was widely reported. The false reports came from certain Johnson Administration hold-over officials within the Department of Agriculture and Health, Education and Welfare, who really didn't know what was going on at the White House.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Rain, Curfew Cool Memphis After March

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the first anniversary of his assassination, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was memorialized in services, marches and vigils across the nation. Speakers pleaded for a rededication to his battle for human rights.

The observances Friday in hundreds of towns and cities were peaceful. But in Memphis, Tenn., where King was killed on April 4, 1968, a mass march was taken as an opportunity by vandals to smash store windows.

A curfew ordered by Mayor Henry Loeb and cool rain emptied the streets during the night. Police had arrested more than 70 persons by midnight for curfew violations, looting, burglary and assault.

The city was relatively quiet when the curfew was lifted shortly before dawn and authorities were to decide later whether to reimpose it tonight.

In Montgomery, Ala., several thousand Negroes camped through the night in a huge field behind a Roman Catholic school. They were waiting the start of a march on the State Capitol today in memory of King.

The Rev. Ralph David Abernathy, who succeeded King as head of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, was to lead the march. He headed the services for King in Memphis Friday.

The day passed calmly in Chicago, the only other city where mourning was marred by violence. There were outbreaks in two neighborhoods Thursday by groups of Negro youths.

Police and 5,000 National Guardsmen stood by in case of further trouble but only one minor shooting incident was reported.

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Sr., speaking at a special Good Friday service in suburban Evanston, called on blacks and whites to follow the nonviolent principles of his son.

"Violence gains nothing," the elder King said. "Good men will always be opposed to looting, killing and rioting. We must strive continually for peace, justice and fair play."

President Nixon sent a message of condolence to Dr. King's widow, Coretta, in Atlanta, which was delivered by Robert H. Finch, secretary of health, education and welfare, on the eve of the anniversary.

Mrs. King avoided public ceremonies during the day but did visit her husband's grave with her four children. She placed a red and white cross of flowers on the gravestone inscribed:

"Free at last, free at last, thank God Almighty I'm free at last."

In Nashville some 300 demonstrators marched to the grounds of the Tennessee State Prison where James Earl Ray is serving a 99-year sentence for King's murder. They said their purpose was to remind Ray "of what he did."

Boston Mayor Kevin White called on Congress to declare King's birthday a national holiday. Later hundreds of Negroes held a black-only rally in King's honor, at one point asking a Roman Catholic priest and four nuns, all white, to leave.

In Alaska, a member of the John Birch Society led the opposition forces that defeated a resolution in the Sate Senate to ask Congress to declare King's birthday a national day of mourning.

Sen. Clyde R. Lewis, an Anchorage Republican and member of the Birch Society's National Council, said King had "contributed more than anyone else to the present campus rioting and street rioting."

In Selma, Ala., the scene of a bloody 1965 civil rights clash, about 2,000 persons marched under a blazing sun chanting "Soul power, soul power! Uhm Ah!" All but a handful of the marchers were black.

About 3,000 turned out for a program at the Portsmouth, Va., municipal stadium after a two-mile march. The crowd chanted, "Be black, be proud, be great!"

A mule-led caravan of some 200 persons marched down Basin Street in New Orleans followed by a sound truck playing tape recordings of King's speeches.

School officials in Kalamazoo, Mich., canceled an assembly to honor King. When it was postponed on Thursday, about 100 black students broke four windows and ripped down lockers.

And in Memphis, a surprise guest was Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass. who said, "Let us work so no man be denied a job by the evil of discrimination... If I fight for these goals all my public life, there is no greater service I can do for my country."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 1

Jackson Daily News

Jackson, Miss,

COPY SENT BUREAU

Date: April 5, 1969  
Edition: Home  
Author:  
Editor: James M. Ward  
Title: murkin

Character:  
or  
Classification: 157-9586-S1  
Submitting Office: Jackson

☐ Being Investigated

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| APR 7 1969  |         |
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## Observances Held In 3 State Towns

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Predominantly Negro groups staged demonstrations in at least three Mississippi cities on the anniversary of the death of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Authorities at Greenville said several hundred persons marched through the city Friday to a rally at Coleman High School stadium. The demonstration was sponsored by the Greenville Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance.

A few whites, mostly clergymen and Roman Catholic nuns, march as it moved quietly through the Delta city. No incidents were reported.

About 300 persons marched on the Forrest County Courthouse at Hattiesburg in a quiet demonstration described by police as "solemn."

The Rev. E. E. Grimmett, pastor of St. Pal's United Methodist Church, addressed the gathering from the steps of the building and urged them to carry on the doctrine of non-violence espoused by the slain civil rights leader.

Police at Meridian said about 40 persons gathered in Highland Park in a memorial demonstration. The biracial group sang civil rights songs, read from King's works and discussed the ideas he had expressed.

Meridian police and curious onlookers witnessed the demonstration, and no incidents were reported.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Martin Luther King Memorial Here Fri.

A Memorial Program for Dr. Martin Luther King has been planned by the Natchez Chapter of the NAACP, to be held here on Friday evening. Rev. Shed Baldwin, President of the Natchez Chapter, has announced.

The Memorial Program will include a Memorial March from the Beulah Baptist Church on B Street to the Court House and return. The Memorial March will form at the church at five thirty o'clock.

The Memorial Services will be held at seven o'clock at Beulah Baptist Church, Rev. W. L.

Logan, Pastor, is helping plan the services which will be very impressive and will include choir number as well as Memorial talks.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 14

The Natchez Democrat

Natchez, Miss.

**NOT BUREAU**  
COPY SENT BUREAU

Date: April 2, 1969

Edition: Daily

Author:

Editor: James W. Lambert

Title: Murkin

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586-9

Submitting Office: Jackson

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## KKK Attorney To Defend Ray

SAVANNAH, Ga. (AP) — The office of J. B. Stoner said today that Stoner, an attorney with past connections with the Ku Klux Klan and the National States Rights party, will represent James Earl Ray in his fight for a new trial in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

A spokesman, Edward S. Fields, said Stoner is en route by automobile to Nashville where he plans to confer with Ray Saturday morning.

Ray was imprisoned in Nashville after pleading guilty in Memphis to King's slaying and receiving a 99-year sentence.

Fields said Stoner was hired to help Ray change his plea to innocent and to defend him if he wins a new trial.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

— Page 1

— Jackson Daily News

— Jackson, Miss.

Date: March 21, 1969  
Edition: Home  
Author:  
Editor: James M. Ward  
Title: Murkin

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586-  
Submitting Office: Jackson

☐ Being Investigated

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| SEARCHED      | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED    | FILED   |
| MAR 24 1969   |         |
| FBI - JACKSON |         |

# Mrs. King, Clark OK'd Ray Plea

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — Maneuvers which led James Earl Ray to change his plea to escape the electric chair in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., began in mid-December and had the approval of U.S. Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark, Tennessee Gov. Buford Ellington and Coretta King, widow of the Negro leader.

These details emerged in reconstructing the delicate negotiations that produced the agreement under which Ray came into court Monday, admitted slaying King and received a prison term of 99 years. Had he gone to trial and been convicted, he could have been sentenced to death.

## SEVERAL VERSIONS

The failure of the case to go to trial produced some adverse reaction and added to arguments that a conspiracy was being ignored or covered up.

The agreement was first proposed in mid-December. There are two versions as to who acted first.

Shelby County Atty. Gen. Phil Canale, who was in charge of the prosecution, spoke by telephone with the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Justice Department Dec. 19.

## PROCEDURE GIVEN

"In this call, I outlined the procedures that would be involved under Tennessee law. The key points to the agreement were a plea of guilty and a sentence of 99 years. I wanted the department's views.

Canale said he acted on his own and that "from the standpoint of a prosecutor seeking a compromise, plea and punishment is the custom instead of the exception."

But Hugh Stanton, defense attorney, said there was no death penalty in a deal. Stanton thought a deal made for a guilty plea years. "I talked to Canale about this at least a week before Christmas, and as I remember, he said he wanted to check it out."

with his associates," Stanton said.

An effort to learn what Mrs. King's reactions would be was initiated Dec. 31. Canale spoke with New York lawyer Harry Wachtel, counsel for Mrs. King and Dr. King's family, and described the possible agreement. He also then aired it with Ellington, who said he had no objections.

On Jan. 3, Wachtel called Canale and told him that Mrs. King and others in the King family were "opposed in fact and in principle to capital punishment and would not wish to see Ray executed in the electric chair."

However, Wachtel emphasized that Mrs. King wanted it made clear that this did not in any way mean she or the others in the family thought that Ray acted alone. Mrs. King remains convinced there was a conspiracy and after the Monday hearing, she said.

"This plea of guilty cannot be allowed to close the case or to end the search for many fingers which helped pulled the trigger."

Notes describing Canale's telephone calls, as well as information from attorney Wachtel's New York office, confirmed that

Mrs. King was a potential agent and apparently had approved it. That same day, Jan. 3, Canale spoke with the Justice Department and was informed that the plan had been discussed with Atty. Gen. Clark and that such a procedure had his approval. Sometime in February, Judge W. Preston Battle of Shelby County Criminal Court had a discussion with Percy Foreman, the Texas attorney who headed the Ray defense team. "He asked me then, informal-

ly, for information regarding a guilty plea" the judge said. "He also asked whether a guilty plea could be settled with a life sentence. I said, 'Whoa, that's only 13 years in this state and the very least I'd consider is 99 years.' I told him that before anything could be done there would have to be a full agreement between the defense and prosecution, that there would have to be a waiver of the defense motion and that examination of Ray would have to take place in open court at which time Ray would have to make clear that he understood what the plea meant."

The defense and prosecution then began careful negotiations. They wanted to avoid a leak which would prematurely bring the agreement into the headlines, and perhaps disrupt it.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 1

The Clarion Ledger

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Date: March 15, 1969

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Author:

Editor: T. M. Hederman

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MAR 17 1969

FBI-JACKSON

# Negotiations Preceded Plea In King Case

Lengthy, Guarded  
Discussions Led  
To His Decision

By BERNARD GAVZER  
Associated Press Writer

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — The decision of James Earl Ray to plead guilty to killing Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in return for a 99-year prison term was the result of lengthy and closely guarded negotiations.

Not only did the prosecution and defense approve of the plan, a reconstruction of the events shows, but King's widow, Coretta, U.S. Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark and Tennessee Gov. Buford Ellington concurred.

Notes on telephone calls made by the prosecution and information from a New York attorney's office confirm that Mrs. King was informed of the potential agreement and apparently approved it.

But Mrs. King also made it clear that she did not want it thought that she believed Ray acted alone. After Ray entered his plea, she said: "This plea of guilty cannot be allowed to close the case or to end the search for the many fingers which helped pull the trigger."

Information now becoming available also showed that Ray at first wanted to take his chances in court, but agreed to the 99 years when presented with the evidence against him.

Ellington was not available for comment.

Ray's guilty plea before a special session of Shelby County Criminal court last Monday precluded a full-fledged trial which could have resulted in Ray's being sentenced to the electric chair.

The absence of such a trial with its full presentation of evidence has added fuel to the controversy of whether Ray was merely part of a conspiracy to kill King.

Phil Canale, Shelby County district attorney general who headed the prosecution team, and Hugh Stanton, the public defender, both confirmed that talks leading to a possible guilty plea began in December. But they differed over who instigated the negotiations.

Canale said that in a telephone conversation with the U. S. civil rights division of Department of Justice on Dec. 19 he outlined the procedures which would be followed under Tennessee law. "The key points to the agreement were a plea of guilty and a sentence of 99 years," Canale said.

Stanton said he talked with Canale about a possible guilty plea "at least a week before Christmas, and as I remember, he said he wanted to check it out with his associates."

Stanton said the defense investigation had prompted a feeling that Ray faced a possible death sentence if the case went to trial, and that a deal could be made for the 99-year term.

Canale, on Dec. 31, called Harry Wachtel, a New York attorney for Mrs. King and Dr. King's family, to see what Mrs. King's reaction would be. Wachtel called back Jan. 3 and said Mrs. King wanted it made clear that such a deal did not mean that she and others in the family thought there was no conspiracy.

But, Wachtel said, Mrs. King and other family member were

"opposed in fact and in principle to capital punishment and would not wish to see Ray executed in the electric chair."

After the original call to Wachtel, Canale also discussed the matter with Ellington, who said he had no objections to the deal. On Jan. 3, Canale called the Justice Department again, and was informed that Clark had given his approval to the plan.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 1

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

**LID ON QUESTIONS**

# Guilty Plea Left Puzzles

Editor's Note—For more than six months now, AP Newsfeatures Writer Bernard Gavzer has practically lived with the case of James Earl Ray. To gather material for a recent 15,000 word story on Ray and the King murder, Gavzer traveled 10,000 miles, tracking down all possible clues.

By **BERNARD GAVZER**  
AP Newsfeatures Writer

James Earl Ray's plea of guilty to the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. put the lid on a court trial which may have aired puzzling questions about his escape from prison, his motive in killing King and his flight from justice.

His imprisonment without the searching inquiry a trial would have produced leaves a number of key questions unanswered:

1. How did he pay his way? From the time of his escape from Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City, Mo., April 23, 1967, until his capture in London, June 8, 1968, it is estimated he spent at least \$10,000. He had traveled variously to Toronto, Montreal, Atlanta, Birmingham, New Orleans, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, Los Angeles, Memphis, Portugal and London. He reportedly robbed a Montreal house of prostitution of \$800 and a London bank of about \$400.

**FANTASY?**

2. Published accounts from prison of Ray's version of his flight say he was contacted in Montreal by a light-haired, or

blond, Latin-man named "Raoul." This man, Ray said, gave him thousands of dollars. But the Royal Canadian Mounted Police say no evidence of such a man has been found. Was this a fantasy or was there a person named Raoul?

3. Minutes after Dr. King was shot as he stood on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, one police radio channel was occupied with details of a fake pursuit of a white Mustang, which apparently concentrated police attention in directions away from the more logical and immediate routes of flight to adjoining Arkansas or Mississippi. Police said this was a hoax, but so far as is known there has been no public explanation of the coincidence that the white Mustang of the hoax was to be the same kind of car which Ray used.

**MOVED**

4. Dr. King had previously housed himself in the white-operated Rivermont Motel but he moved into the Negro-operated Lorraine on April 4, 1968, the day King was slain. How did Ray know for certain that King was there and that he had a room on a balcony that was exposed to possible attack from a number of positions across a street?

5. How did Ray pick the rooming house on Main Street and how did he know that the best vantage point would be from the hallway bathroom from which the fatal shot was fired? He had

been offered a kitchenette in another part of the establishment, but this would have looked out to Main Street, away from the Lorraine site.

6. Of the aliases he used, three were of living men all residing within the Toronto area: Paul Bridgman, Ramon George Sneyd, Eric Starvo Galt. Galt's actual middle name is St. Vincent.

Did someone select the names? What were the odds that he could randomly select such names and then find sufficient information to be able to use them, such as he did in seeking passport and other official documents in the names of Bridgman and Sneyd?

**WHO SENT QUARTER**

7. While in Birmingham, before the King assassination, Ray bought a white Mustang for \$1,995 cash. Later, when he was in Los Angeles, two unexplained events regarding the license occurred. On Feb. 28-29, 1968, the Alabama Highway Patrol received a telephone request for a duplicate license for "Galt," as Ray was known. It was sent to a Birmingham rooming house on March 1, with a request for 25 cents fee. The quarter was received by the highway department on March 6. Who placed the call, who sent the quarter, why?

8. In an Atlanta rooming house before the slaying, Ray had departed, leaving behind a map which bore his fingerprint and had four places circled on it: King's home, the headquarters of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, King's church and a project housing area where the white Mustang was found abandoned after the slaying. Who furnished the information for the map? Did Ray figure it out on his own, or were others involved?

9. Before the slaying, Ray went to the Aero Marine Supply Co., near the Birmingham airport, where he first bought a

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 1

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#4



~~.243 Remington.~~ He returned the next day, to get a more powerful Remington Gamemaster. Why would he have risked making an exchange which would fix his appearance in the minds of others? Why would he have decided on a more powerful weapon? The .243 would have been just as deadly, say some hunters.

#### ESCAPE DUBIOUS

10. Ray's published accounts of his escape from the Missouri State Penitentiary say he scaled the wall with the aid of a long-handled kitchen tool. Examination of the inside of the wall indicates this was a highly fanciful account. Had he indeed gone over the wall at the point he claims, he still would not have been out of the prison because there is an additional supervised area he would have had to negotiate. Prison authorities still contend he got into a bread-box with the aid of one or perhaps more prisoners. If so, who helped him? 11. After the slaying, Ray managed to obtain a passport in Toronto under the name of Ramon George Sneyd. There are conflicting versions of just how his passport was obtained, especially since the Bureau of Vital Statistics in Toronto has no record of sending a duplicate "Sneyd" birth certificate to him. One was sent to Ray, as "Paul Bridgman," but it was returned, unreceived. Without any document to show his identity, it remains a mystery as to how Ray was able to get the passport in the name of Sneyd. 12. Once he went abroad and arrived in Portugal, Ray was safe from the long arm of American law. The United States has no extradition agreement with Portugal involving such capital cases and he would have been safe there. He went to London. Why?

There are other questions, pertinent but in a way, secondary. The answers to these key questions may have emerged had witnesses been called and evidence presented, and had Ray been on the stand for cross-examination.

# Ray Enters Guilty

## Plea In King

## Murder Case

### Implies Conspiracy; Sentence, 99 Years

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — James Earl Ray pleaded guilty on his 41st birthday Monday to a first degree murder charge and was sentenced to 99 years in state prison in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. But he said he disagreed "with the theory that there was no conspiracy" in King's death.

In Washington, a spokesman for the Justice Department said the investigation into the original allegations of a conspiracy is still open.

The guilty plea means Ray will be eligible for parole on his 71st birthday or earlier if time served in jail here is taken into account. His lawyer, Percy Foreman of Houston, Tex., said he agreed to the plea "to save this man's life."

First-degree murder is punishable in Tennessee by sentences ranging from 20 years to death in the electric chair. No one has been executed in the chair since 1961.

#### PROCEEDINGS SWIFT

The whole proceeding took less than 3½ hours from guilty plea to sentence at 12:12 p.m. The 12-man jury which formally fixed the sentence included two Negroes.

The jury had agreed in advance to the state-defense arrangement for the guilty plea and 99-year sentence.

"Are you pleading guilty because you killed Dr. Martin Luther King in such a manner that you would be found guilty of first-degree murder under the laws of this state?" Criminal Court Judge Preston Battle asked Ray.

"Yes, I'm pleading guilty," Ray replied. One way or another, he repeated this answer four times.

King was shot once with a rifle bullet, fired from a rooming house across the street from the Lorraine Motel last April 4. The civil rights leader had come here to lead a demonstration in

behalf of the city's 1,200 garbage collectors, most of them Negroes, who were on strike.

That walkout, over demands for a union contract and a pay increase, was settled soon after King was slain. On June 8, Ray was arrested in London by Scotland Yard detectives—climaxing what has been described as one of the world's biggest man-hunts.

#### RETURNS TO MEMPHIS

Returned to Memphis under tight security after British extradition hearings, Ray has been held in a specially armored, air-conditioned cell at the Shelby County Jail.

His trial, first set for November, was postponed twice and had been scheduled to begin April 7.

The guilty plea itself was entered while the jury, selected two weeks ago and at work in other Criminal Court cases since then, was not yet in the courtroom.

Ray, attired in a checked blue sport coat and dark pants, was questioned by Judge Battle at length over his decision to plead guilty.

#### EXPLAINED RIGHTS

"Has your lawyer explained all your rights to you?" the

judge asked. Battle said these rights include trial by jury, with appeals. "Do you understand these?"

Q. Is this what you want to do?

A. Yes, I think so.

Q. Do you understand that a plea of guilty means that you waive your right to appeal the conviction, or to appeal any pre-trial rulings which may have gone against you. Do you understand this:

A. Yes sir.

Q. Has anything else been promised to you besides the 99-year sentence to induce you to plead guilty?

A. No.

Q. Has any pressure been put on you to induce you to enter a plea of guilty?

A. No.

Q. Are you pleading guilty because you killed Dr. Martin Luther King in such a manner that you would be found guilty of first-degree murder under the laws of this state?

A. Yes, I'm pleading guilty.

Soon afterward, the jury entered the courtroom. Dist. Atty. Gen. Philip Canale and Foreman then made their usual opening statements to the jury. Canale told the jurors that there was no evidence of any conspiracy in the case.

Foreman put it this way: "It took me months to prove to myself . . . that it was not a conspiracy."

It was then that Ray stood up and, addressing the judge, said, "I don't want to change things. I just want to add something. I don't agree with the theory that there was no conspiracy." He did not elaborate.

At this point, Foreman interrupted Ray to say that his client was pleading guilty to first-degree murder, "not to anything about a conspiracy."

"Will this change any of the answers you gave me previously?" asked the judge.

"No, sir," Ray replied.

Q. I want to ask you again if you are pleading guilty that you killed Martin Luther King under circumstances under which you could be found guilty of first-degree murder under the laws of this state?

A. Yes, sir.

Later, when he passed sentence, the judge himself said there was no evidence of any conspiracy. But, he said, if such evidence arises, the state will be quick to prosecute.

Canale, the district attorney, was asked later at a news conference about Ray's possible motive in pleading guilty.

"I think race had a lot to do with it," Canale replied. He refused to elaborate, but said later there was "some indication he (Ray) was a racist."

Battle himself told newsmen: "Memphis has been blamed for the death of Dr. King, to me wrongfully and irrationally. Neither the decedent (King) nor his killer lived here. Their orbits merely intercepted here."

The judge said he felt he had tried the case "as nearly as possible to other like cases, and to scrupulously follow the law" and his own conscience.

Foreman, who took over the case on the eve of Ray's scheduled November trial, told the judge earlier in the court:

"I've never had hopes of anything except . . . to save this man's life." He took over from Arthur Hanes, former mayor of Birmingham, Ala., after Ray fired Hanes four days before his November trial was to start.

This resulted in a postponement of the scheduled trial until March 3 and thence to April 7 to give Foreman more time to prepare a case.

The first public hint of the guilty plea came last Friday. published the story, the subject of recurrent but unconfirmed rumors. Soon afterward, newsmen accredited to cover the trial—there were about 100 of them, all told—were summoned to be in court Monday morning.

Again, there was no indication what the hearing would entail until a briefing session for the newsmen began at 8 a.m. An hour and a half later, Ray told the judge in court he wanted to plead guilty.

#### JURY WILLING

Then, to make no mistake, came the judge's lengthy questioning of Ray and finally, as Ray sat quietly in the court, the judge asked the jurors if they still were willing to abide by the guilty plea arrangement.

All 12 men raised their hands in assent. At 12:12 p.m., Battle

then intoned: ~~You have~~ pleaded guilty to first-degree murder and it is the judgment of the court that you be confined for 99 years in the state penitentiary."

There still was no immediate indication when Ray would leave his special jail cell and be transferred to the penitentiary in Nashville—or how the transfer would be made.

At Nashville, however, Harry Avery, state corrections commissioner, said at midmorning that his office had not been in contact "with the people in Memphis" concerning Ray.

"But in view of the special security arrangements in Memphis," he said, "We will keep him in maximum security here until his classification is completed—about a month or six weeks."

# King's Wife Asks Case Kept Open

ATLANTA, Ga. (AP) — Mrs. Martin Luther King Jr., said Monday that James Earl Ray's plea of guilty in the slaying of her husband "cannot be allowed to close the case, to end the search for the many fingers which helped pull the trigger."

Mrs. King said, however, that for her family, "there is a sense of emotional relief" in the sentencing of Ray.

"For the moment, we have been spared a trial which would compel us to relive the fearfully tragic events of his death. But we realize that this is but a respite," she said in a statement.

## MUST CONTINUE

Mrs. King said that "all concerned people must press the State of Tennessee and the U.S. government to continue until all who are responsible for this crime have been apprehended."

"Not until then," she said,

"can the conscience of the nation rest."

Earlier, the Rev. Ralph David Abernathy, who succeeded King as head of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, said that Ray's admission of guilt strengthens his belief that there was a conspiracy in King's slaying.

## OPPOSE DEATH

Both Abernathy and Mrs. King reiterated their stand that the death penalty for Ray would be contrary to the moral and religious convictions of King.

"Retribution and vengeance have no place in our beliefs," Mrs. King said.

The Rev. James Orange of SCLC, who was with King when he was slain, said, "I am trying to stay out of this. I think they should set that man free." He declined to elaborate when asked why he felt Ray should be set free, saying he had no further comment.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Huie Gets Contempt Charge

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—William Bradford Huie, biographer of James Earl Ray, was arrested on a contempt of court warrant Friday after testifying for two hours and 40 minutes before the Shelby County Grand Jury. Ray is charged with murdering Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Huie, who claims knowledge of a conspiracy in the King slaying, had been directed to appear before the grand jury and tell all he knows about the case.

The warrant was issued by Criminal Court Judge W. Preston Battle, the judge who will try Ray when he goes to trial March 3 on a charge of assassinating King. The contempt citation was based on a strict no pre-trial publicity order issued by Judge Battle.

Huie's articles on Ray, in which he said King's death was the outgrowth of a conspiracy, appeared in Look Magazine. He purportedly paid Ray up to \$35,000 for the material he used in writing them.

Shortly after Huie concluded his session with the grand jury, Ray's attorneys appeared before Judge Battle for a hearing on several defense motions.

These included a request by the prisoner to have a photographer make a series of pictures of him in his steel-plated jail cell. Ray said a magazine had offered to pay him up to \$5,000 for exclusive rights to publish the pictures. Ray said he needed the money for his defense.

Before going before the jury, Huie told newsmen he could name others he said were involved in King's slaying but probably wouldn't do so before the grand jury.

"I can't name people who I think may be involved until they are arrested. I could be sued for libel," said the dapper Alabama author.

Asked how the grand jury could return indictments if he did not name names, Huie replied, "I am not in the law enforcement business. The only information I have is information given me by James Earl Ray. All of it has been made available to the FBI and the State of Tennessee."

Judge Battle has cited several other persons for violating his no-publicity edict, including two Memphis newspapers and Ray's former attorney, Arthur Hanes, onetime mayor of Birmingham.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 7

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# King's Aide Asserts Ray 'Not Guilty'

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A ranking figure in the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) refused Sunday to elaborate on evidence he claims could free Dr. Martin Luther King's accused assassin.

"I have evidence that would free him," the Rev. James Bevel said at a news conference. "I won't discuss the specific evidence now because it wouldn't be beneficial to James Earl Ray. But, he's not guilty."

The director of SCLC's non-violent education and direct action program, sent a telegram Saturday to Ray in Memphis, Tenn., which read

"I would like to inform you that I would be very happy to take your case without fee. I

was present on April 4 at the Lorraine Motel when Dr. King died—you have been accused of murdering him. Of course, I know you are not guilty."

## DELAYED

The 32-year-old civil rights advocate and former liaison officer between SCLC and militant Negro groups, said he did not volunteer his information sooner because of the shock immediately following King's slaying.

"I hadn't prepared to be responsive to him," Bevel said. "But then I thought, 'Here's a man sitting here that shouldn't be here.'"

Ray is scheduled to go on trial March 3 in Memphis on a charge of murder.

"If he (Ray) decides not to take my services, that's his

choice," Bevel said. "I would continue to be very good and warm to him. I wouldn't be against him."

Bevel is not a member of the bar, but a lawyer "by circumstances." The native of Itta Bena, Miss., said he was qualified to defend Ray because of the legal experience gained while representing himself during several civil rights' cases in Mississippi.

## NO REACTION

Public Defender Hugh Stanton in Memphis has refused to react to the telegram as has Ray's attorney, Percy Foreman of Houston.

King was cut down by a sniper's bullet while leading a strike by Memphis garbage collectors last spring.

His accused assassin was subsequently arrested in London following an intensive manhunt and extradited to Memphis.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 1

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# Ray's Steps Traced Dr. King's Assassination After

By BERNARD GAVZER  
AP Newsfeatures Writer

The shot that mortally wounded the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was fired at 6:01 p.m., April 4, 1968, so far as the most careful checking can determine.

Within minutes, police combed the immediate area, going toward probable vantage points, especially toward a rooming house less than 100 yards away. Witnesses thought the shot came from there, and two occupants of the rooming house soon told of hearing the sound of a rifle shot coming from the hallway bathroom. The man they said had apparently emerged from the bathroom—which had a window affording a direct line of fire to the motel balcony where Dr. King stood—went down the hall and out of the building, carrying some sort of package.

## WENT BACK

That was the last time anyone remembers seeing him in the vicinity of 422½ S. Main St., Memphis, Tenn. Where did he go? How did he manage to vanish so quickly and completely?

Investigators, once they found the abandoned white Mustang in Atlanta, were able to go back bit by bit, finding who had owned it, who bought it, where it had been serviced, and so on. But now the chore was to discover what it could tell about where its driver had gone. How did it get to Atlanta? Could anyone safely say it was abandoned by the man who was to become known as Eric Starvo Galt-Harvey Lowmyer-James Earl Ray?

The owner of the Atlanta rooming house could not say whether "Galt" had returned to the room anytime before 10:30 a.m. Friday, April 5. That was when he came in to pull the linens and found the room empty and a note regarding the TV set.

Had anyone in flight wanted to head to Canada from Atlanta, he would have had a choice of three Greyhound buses to Toronto, among other points. It's a scheduled 35 hours and by taking the 10:30 p.m. bus, a traveler would arrive in Toronto at 9:30 a.m., April 7.

## FINAL ODYSSEY

In the Huie-Ray account, Ray reportedly reaches Canada April 6.

It is known that on April 8, 1968, James Earl Ray certainly was embarked on his final Canadian odyssey.

It was on this day that a man wearing dark-rimmed glasses, a burgundy sport jacket and tan raincoat came to 102 Ossington Ave. in a working-class section of Toronto largely inhabited by Italians, Hungarians, Poles, Lithuanians and Chinese.

Mrs. Leda Szpakowsky, the landlady, showed him a room on the second floor. It had a large bay window overlooking the street, a double bed, TV with rabbit ears antenna, three wooden chairs, a chest of drawers, a food cabinet, a dinette table, two color depictions of Jesus Christ, and a wall decoration saying "Home Sweet Home."

The man said he was a real estate salesman. He paid the

rent of \$10 in advance, left and returned in the early evening with a small overnight bag.

## MANNERLY LODGER

His name?

"Paul Bridgman," said the man.

He was a quiet, mannerly lodger, said Mrs. Szpakowsky. He would go out a little before 9 a.m., return before noon, leave in the early afternoon and return after dinner time.

His movements during these hours and days is not clear. One man thought he may have been the person who came to the To-

ronto Amateur Athletic Club which is across the street from the rooming house at 102 Ossington. The club man said such a man had inquired about a steam bath and shower but left when the telephone rang and he went to answer it.

## ALIASES FROM LIBRARY

He may have been in the Public Library on College Street, looking through bound volumes of backdated newspapers, such as the Toronto Telegram of Nov. 11, 1932, and the Toronto Daily Star of Oct. 8, 1932. The Toronto Telegram of that date carries the birth announcement of one Paul Edward Bridgman, who now is a consultant in the Toronto school system. The Daily Star of that date carries the birth announcement of Ramon George Sneyd, a constable in the Toronto Police Department.

## ORIGIN OF NAME

When and where did he pick the name "Paul Bridgman?" If somehow he had gotten to Toronto early Friday, April 5, 1968, presumably he could have

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 11

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found it in the library newspapers that Friday or on Saturday. The library is closed on Sunday. If he had not arrived until Monday, April 8, when could he have gotten the name, since he used it on renting his room? It is not known whether anyone at the library ever saw anyone answering his description either prior to April 8, or in the eight days following.

(The birth announcements carry some very essential information—such as the maiden name of the mother as well as the name of the father. This is the sort of information needed when one applies for a passport).

And "Paul Bridgman" clearly had a passport on his mind on April 11. On that day, he came to Mrs. Mabel Agnew's Arcade Photo Studio on Yonge St. She personally took passport photos of "Paul Bridgman."

#### INQUIRY BY PHONE

She would not say when he picked them up, but did say "Our pictures are always ready in 20 minutes to a half hour."

Five days later, Mrs. Yee Sun Loo, landlady of a rooming house at 962 Dundas St., which is one of the main thoroughfares which crosses Ossington Ave., received a call from a "Ramon George Sneyd" who telephoned to inquire about a room.

The same day, April 16, "Ramon George Sneyd" walked into the Kennedy Travel Bureau on Bloor St. He asked Miss Lillian Spencer, the office manager, about travel to London and also completed a passport application. As one of his next-of-kin he listed "Paul Bridgman."

He presented a duplicate birth certificate in the name of Sneyd, three passport photographs and \$8 fee. Normally, such an application requires the name of another Canadian citizen who has known the applicant at least two years, but in Canada this can be satisfied by the applicant swearing on oath that the information is true.

ROUND-Trip  
"Sneyd" order  
21-day excursion  
Toronto to London,  
a \$345 Canadian  
be expedited  
was anxious to make a trip.  
pref. FUGITIVE WARRANT ISSUED  
In Washington, D.C., the FBI  
"have issued a fugitive warrant for the  
a nervous habit of occa-  
sionally pulling at an ear lobe  
with his hand. His left ear pro-  
trudes further from his head  
than his right ear."

The complaint charged:

"On or about March 29, 1968,

at Birmingham, Ala., ... Eric Starvo Galt and an individual whom he alleged to be his brother, entered into a conspiracy which continued until on or about April 5, 1968, to injure, oppress, threaten, or intimidate Martin Luther King, Jr., ... in the free exercise or enjoyment of a right secured to him by the Constitution or laws of the United States; namely, the right to freely travel from state to state.

In furtherance of this conspiracy, Eric Starvo Galt did, on or about March 30, 1968, purchase a rifle at Birmingham, Ala.

Photographs of the wanted man showed a man with his eyes closed. He was wearing a dark or black suit jacket that was cut so much of a white shirt could be seen, the sort of jacket that might go with a tuxedo.

The black bow tie added to the idea that it was a tuxedo-style jacket. A second version of the same photograph was distributed, this time with eyes painted in by an FBI artist.

#### REAL GALT

There is a real Eric S. Galt. The full name is Eric St. Vincent Galt. He is a man of 54 and an employe of Union Carbide in Toronto. This Galt was found to be a law-abiding, responsible citizen.

He had no idea how anyone came to be using his name. An avid scuba diver, he had traveled to United States shores on vacations. But how anyone could have had access to his papers or to information about him, he could not fathom. He did do something unusual, however, in signing his name. He abbreviated his middle name, St. Vincent, as St. V., making little circles for the periods. One reading the signature could interpret it as saying "Starvo."

The next day, April 18, at Mrs. Szpakowsky's rooming house, her young daughter answered the phone and a man asked for "Paul Bridgman." He was not home, she said. No message was left.

Over on Dundas St., "Ramon George Sneyd" saw Mrs. Yee Sun Loo and gave her \$9, a week's rent, in advance, and said he'd be moving in later. He did, on April 19.

#### RAY UNCOVERED

And now, the alias "Eric Starvo Galt" is officially discovered. In Washington, D.C., the fingerprints are matched and there is no mistake about it: the wanted man is James Earl Ray, an escaped convict from the Missouri State Penitentiary. He had been serving 20 years for armed robbery and as an habitual criminal. He had already served sev-

en years ~~when he~~ escaped April 23, 1967.

#### BROTHER GETS THE NEWS

In St. Louis, at "The Grapevine" tavern on the South Side, John Larry Ray heard the news stoically. It was on the radio. His brother was wanted for one of the sensational killings of our time. He went on serving his customers.

"But I was kind of surprised," John Larry says. "Personally, I got doubts myself that Jimmy did the actual killing. He wasn't the kind of guy who broods a lot, and he wasn't a political guy."

"If I had to see a reason and there was no money involved, then I can't see Jimmy doing it. He was no racist. My brother, Jerry, will tell you the same thing."

Jerry, who was working as a maintenance man at Sportsman Country Club near Northbrook, a Chicago suburb, said James "was never a man of violence."

"Look at all the money he came into all of a sudden. Buying Mustangs, taking dancing lessons, taking trips to Mexico," Jerry said.

But John Larry and Jerry are hardly the best authorities regarding James Earl.

#### LARCENY

"I ain't saw Jim on the outside since 1949. Only on the inside," admits John Larry, who entered Menard Prison in Illinois June 1, 1953, on a 5 to 10 years sentence for motor vehicle larceny. He was known as John Ryan, Inmate No. 23401. He was released Feb. 1, 1960.

Jerry entered Menard Feb. 26, 1954, on a 2-to-5 for larceny, under the name Gerald Ryan. Before then, he had been at St. Charles reform school in Illinois. He was paroled from Menard Dec. 12, 1955, and returned as a parole violator Aug. 1, 1958. He was discharged May 6, 1960.

Brother Jim had been elsewhere most of the time since 1949. So there were few and rare occasions for the brothers to see or know one another, especially as free men.

At the Missouri State Penitentiary in Jefferson City, Mo., it was approximately 3:25 p.m., on Sunday, April 23, 1967, when Lt. William R. Turner, Control Center Desk Officer, was told there had been an escape from the institution.

#### FORMAL COUNT

p.m. shift, had not reported for work at 11 a.m. He was missing from the 5 p.m. count. A search was made of the grounds and

walls, inside and out, without result.

Ray, according to Huie, claims to have escaped at approximately 8:30 a.m. when a guard nodded and he sprinted 15 feet from the kitchen loading dock to the 23-foot wall, at a point where there is a tunnel through it. Ray supposedly hoisted himself atop a pipeline and from this starting point of about 6 feet up the wall, managed to get sufficient hold in crevices by using a four foot rod to hoist himself in stages over the wall. The rod has a hook at the end and is used in the kitchen to move hot pans in large ovens.

#### CHALLENGED

"Ray is covering up," says Fred Wilkinson, Missouri State Director of Corrections. "We discovered very early in the game that he was aided in the escape by another inmate. We know who that inmate is and he still is in prison. Regardless of what Ray says now, we are satisfied that he got out hidden in a breadbox."

Wilkinson and others previously reconstructed the escape as having occurred in this way: An inmate helped him get into a 3x5 breadbox, squishing the loaves as he got in, and then covering him with bread. The box was placed on an open, stake track for a two and a half mile trip to the Renz Farm, which is a prison farm. There are eight boulevard stops and two traffic lights on the route from the prison, in downtown

Jefferson City, to the farm. The box holding Ray was one of two on the truck. Ray needed the help of an inmate to be certain his box wouldn't be on the bottom. There was once an escape attempt in which a convict was hidden in a coffin but other prisoners, unaware of the escape, loaded it on a freight car upside down. The man almost suffocated.

#### PRISON UNIFORM

Ray presumably was wearing the prison uniform—a dark green outfit with a three-quarters inch black stripe on the outside seam of the trousers. He could also have switched to the white trousers worn in the kitchen, where he was assigned, or have been given them by convict hospital attendants.

"In these days of hippie styles," says Fred Wilkinson, "he could have been on the street in prison greens and no one would have paid particular attention, since the stripe is a rather simple marking."

The 3 x 5 ft. breadbox was hauled to the Renz Farm where the prisoners noticed the squashed and ruined bread, but said nothing. They had enough bread for the day and so no issue was made of it. However, if they did know it was part of an escape, they probably would not have said a word because the inmate code is to seal lips on any escape attempt.

"There is no question about the state of the bread. A man had been in the breadbox and we are certain it was Ray," says Wilkinson. "Also, even on a Sunday morning there is a lot of movement around the loading dock with at least five or six trucks there. He couldn't have run across the yard without being spotted."

#### HARD LUCK FAMILY

The saga of Ray's life and the hardluck family from which he emerged now began to unfold.

James Earl was the first of nine children. One was to die in a fire, another in a car which plunged into a river. James Earl and his two closest brothers, John Larry and Jerry, were



eventually to ~~know~~ lives behind the walls of penitentiaries. James Earl, disgruntled at being shifted out of the Military Police when in the Army in the late 1940s, opted for a bad discharge and was released for "ineptness" for military service. His career as an armed robber and burglar seems to have been a remarkably inept one since his record shows a succession of apprehensions, convictions and prison sentences. But no one has accounted for the successful stickups, which he surely must have had.

The capers that failed and put him into Missouri State Penitentiary for a 20-year stretch was the Oct. 10, 1959, armed robbery of the Kroger Supermarket in St. Louis. Ray and a companion got \$120 from the cash register, after failing to get the manager to open the store safe, and were photographed in the process. In the getaway, they were pursued by another customer, who saw them switch cars. Ray's car was spotted on a street and within minutes, the police were on him.

#### ATTEMPTED BREAK

On the day he was being taken to court for sentencing, he attempted to get away from Deputy Sheriff Earl Riley by leaping into an elevator on the third floor of the city jail. He failed to close the outside door so the elevator wouldn't move. Riley went into the elevator, cuffed Ray and brought him into court, where he drew 20 years for armed robbery under the Habitual Criminal Act. On March 17, 1960, he entered the big pen at Jefferson City.

James Earl Ray, Inmate No. 00416, tried to escape soon after he entered. He tried scaling a wall. It was futile. That's the kind of gesture that usually ends in death because the wall guards are generally sharpshooters, and have some very heavy firepower. ~~They need it.~~

Nearly six ~~years~~ after he entered, he tried again. On March 12, 1966, he and another convict, Joseph Seibert, put dummies in their beds. Seibert was found quickly. But not Ray. It took two days to locate him. He was found hiding in a ventilator shaft.

This break attempt resulted in his being shipped to the Missouri State Hospital at Fulton, Mo., in September, 1966, where he was placed under five weeks observation.

Dr. Henry V. Guhlman Jr., a psychiatrist at Fulton was to later report in a story copyrighted by the Chicago Daily News—that psychological testing of Ray showed he was an "obsessive compulsive personality" beset by fears that he would come to harm. There was "no evidence of delusions, hallucinations or paranoid ideas," he said.

By this time, the Ray family had been further wounded by tragedy. Ray's brother, Franklin, drowned in 1963 when his car plunged into the Mississippi River across from Quincy, Ill.

Returned to Jefferson City, Ray also returned to thinking about how to get out. He succeeded on April 23, 1967. The fugitive flyer headed: "WANTED ESCAPED CONVICT" stipulated a \$50 reward for his arrest and detention. It wasn't distributed until May 17, nearly a month after he was gone. This was mailed to almost all major police jurisdictions in the nation.

#### FINGER PRINTS MIXED

There was one problem. It had the wrong fingerprints. Somehow, they were transposed and the prints of another prisoner were circulated.

Wilkinson, the Missouri Director of Corrections, says the error was discovered and "corrected notices" were sent out before the end of that month.

#### HAS BETTER LUCK

The Sunday morning Ray vanished was the start of new and unusual—for him—luck in getting around and keeping out of trouble. He went on foot for the first four or five days and finally got to the St. Louis area where a friend—so far, not publicly identified—took him to Edwardsville, Ill., where he got a bus for Chicago. The Huie-Ray story is that Ray had saved or otherwise collected \$300 in prison and came out with the money in his shoe.

In Chicago, he got a room at 2731 N. Sheffield Ave., which is fairly close to Wrigley Field, home of the baseball Cubs and the football Bears and an area seemingly favored by what Chicagoans call hillbillies.

He went after a dishwasher's job he saw advertised in a newspaper. Records of the Indian Trail Restaurant in Winnetka, a north Chicago suburb, show he worked there from May 7 to June 25th. The operators knew him as John.

#### RETURNED TO ST LOUIS

Ray next returned to the St. Louis area and spent almost a week with two friends in Quincy, Ill., and again went to Chicago to pick up his last check from the Indian Trail, and then coming back to East St. Louis, where he was to get a .38 pistol from a friend. From there, he set out for Canada, driving a 1962 red Plymouth which he reportedly bought in East St. Louis, Ill. He reportedly earlier had a 1960 Chrysler, picked up in Chicago, for \$100.

Huie says Ray crossed from Detroit into Windsor and was on the road to Montreal when he invented the name Eric Starvo Galt. Somewhere between Windsor and Toronto, Ray supposedly saw the name "Galt" on an exit marker on the MacDonald-Cartier Freeway. (There is a community with that name which is not far off the freeway).

#### MONTREAL

Ray arrived in Montreal July 18 and got a room for \$75 a month at Har-K Apartments, 2589 East Notre Dame. So far as is known, he remained in Montreal until August 21, 1967. During that time, he enrolled in a correspondence course in locksmithing from a New Jersey school. The FBI reportedly has evidence he used the name "Galt" in applying. He also was running short of money, and according to the Huie-Ray story, obtained \$800 in the armed robbery of a Montreal brothel.

Ray headed south from Montreal—where he purportedly met the mysterious "Raoul"—and arrived in Birmingham, Ala., August 25, whence began the episodes involving the purchase of Paisley's white Mustang and the subsequent travels to Mexico and Los Angeles and New Orleans and Los Angeles again, then the journey in which he is "Eric Starvo Galt" in an Atlanta rooming house and becomes "Harvey Lowmyer" when a rifle is bought in Birmingham and allegedly "John Willard" when he is in the rooming house at 422½ S. Main St., a place with a vantage point to strike down the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## Freshwater Trial Reset For Feb. 3

MEMPHIS (AP) — Margo Freshwater, who was to have gone on trial March 17 charged with murder in connection with shooting of a Memphis liquor store clerk, will go to trial instead on Feb. 3.

Shelby County Criminal Court officials said the change was being made so the Freshwater trial will not conflict with that of James Earl Ray, the man charged with murder in the death of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Miss Freshwater, 20, of Columbus, Ohio, has been in Mississippi and Tennessee jails for almost two years. She was twice tried in Desoto County, Miss., for the murder of a Tennessee taxi driver. Each trial resulted in a hung jury.

Charged with her in the deaths was former Memphis attorney Glenn Nash, who was adjudged criminally insane and has never been brought to trial in either of those cases, or on a third murder charge against him in Florida.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 10

The Clarion Ledger

Jackson, Miss.

Date: Nov. 21, 1968

Edition: Home

Author:

Editor: T. M. Hederman

Title: Murkin

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586-SF1

Submitting Office: Jackson

☐ Being Investigated

157-9586-SF1-81

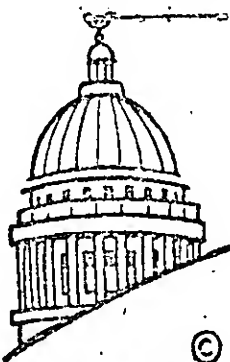
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| SERIALIZED    | FILED   |
| NOV 20 1968   |         |
| FBI - JACKSON |         |
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# ON THE HILL

KENNETH FAIRLY



One Saturday in the late winter of 1952, the regimental headquarters of the historic Seventh Cavalry Regiment accidentally burned, destroying in the fire some of the battle streamers and other relics of the famous Army outfit which dated back to the Battle of the Little Big Horn in 1776.

At the time, we were editing an Army weekly newspaper and because a higher headquarters was on the backside of the commanding general of the 1st Cavalry Division about a series of unaccounted for fires, the General banned publication of the fire in the headquarters of the famous regiment once commanded by Gen. George A. Custer who died at the Little Big Horn with his troopers.

## LOST BATTLE

Since then, because as a lowly sergeant we were not on exactly equal ground with a Major General and lost a fight to print the story, we have been against censorship. But we do believe in presentation of both sides of an issue.

There has been brought to our attention that a publication entitled Scholastic Scope is required reading in at least one Jackson high school. Its Sept. 27th issue features "The Life and Words of Martin Luther King, Jr.," and the front-page is adorned with a picture of the controversial man in a deliberative mood.

The writer who prepared the article backgrounded King's advocacy of nonviolence as a tactic to win freedom for the Negro, from his early study of Thoreau and Gandhi.

## CHRIST LIKE?

But it is this paragraph to

which we object: "Martin Luther King began to think that black Americans could use Ghandhi's way to win their freedom. Wasn't Gandhi's way also the way of Jesus Christ? Hadn't Christ told his people to "Turn the other cheek" if somebody struck them?"

Now, to us, this is a suggestion which infers that King was Christ-like in his approach to the problems besetting this nation, and we think such a supposition is outrageous.

We trust that the high schoolers of today are intelligent enough to weed out the truth from slanted news articles because the level of education is much better today, particularly in the Jackson schools, than it was in our setting some quarter of a century ago.

But we do think that the writer of the King story should have also presented the other side of King to his readers, as outlined in a memorandum of the Internal Security Subcommittee of the Judiciary of the Senate by Sen. Thomas Dodd of Connecticut.

In a study of the New Left, a movement described as extremely dangerous to the United States as it exists today, the memo says:

## KING'S ROLE

"Perhaps the major fusion of the civil rights movement with the New Left was found, however, in the person of the late Martin Luther King.

"The assassination of Dr. King in Memphis on April 4 of this year was an unspeakable tragedy, an affront to every civilized man. There is an

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 19

The Clarion Ledger

Jackson, Miss.

Date: Nov. 15, 1968

Edition: Home

Author:

Editor: T. M. Hederman

Title: Murkin

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586-SF

Submitting Office: Jackson

☐ Being Investigated

157-9586-SF1-80

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SERIALIZED FILED

NOV 15 1968

FBI - JACKSON

ancient saying that one should say nothing critical about the dead. But a discussion of the developing relations between the New Left and civil rights movement is impossible without making note of the role played by Dr. King in these developments in the closing years of his career.

"Martin Luther King, when he first emerged as leader of the civil rights movement, made a number of positive contributions for which he has rightly been honored. During this early period, among other things, he insisted on nonviolence and he avoided association with the extremists.

"Before his death, however, he had moved into AN INCREASINGLY OPEN ALLIANCE with the extremists and he had become increasingly reckless in his criticism of American foreign policy.

Many people, of course, recall that on April 4, 1967, a year before his murder, King urged many to apply as conscientious objectors to military service and described the U. S. Government as the "greatest purveyor of violence in the world today."

Later, the Internal Security Subcommittee's memo reported: "At the antiwar meeting in New York on April 15, Dr. King found himself doing what he once said he would not do. He appeared on the same platform with black power advocates Stokely Carmichael and Floyd McKissick.

#### DREW-RESPONSE

King's attacks on his own country brought a strong statement from the national commander of the Jewish War Veterans of America, a race of people who have been persecuted and slaughtered out of all proportion to the Negro since the day of creation.

The national commander had this comment on Dr. King's assault on the United States role in trying to protect the people of South Vietnam:

"It is utterly incredible that Dr. King's denunciation of our Government should manifest itself in such an ugly parallel.

"We consider his extremist tirade to reveal an ignorance of the facts, pandering to Ho Chi Minh, and an insult to the intelligence of all Americans. It is indeed sad that so respected a national leader should have voiced his dissent so irresponsible.

#### FROM HANOI?

"His speech could have been written in North Vietnam."

Scholastic Scope can eulogize King as they see fit.

But they most certainly should give both sides of the coin and let the reader draw his own conclusion.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Huie, Look In Contempt In Ray Case

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — The judge who will preside in the James Earl Ray case was advised Monday to institute contempt of court proceedings against author William Bradford Huie and the publishers of Look magazine.

A committee of seven attorneys told Judge W. Preston Battle an article Huie wrote about Ray and published in the current issue of Look probably violated his order restricting pre-trial publicity.

It recommended that Huie and Cowles Communications Inc., publishers of Look, be required "to show cause why they would not be held in contempt" after the Ray jury is sequestered and "at such time as the above parties are within the jurisdiction of the court."

Ray is scheduled to go on trial in Battle's Shelby County criminal court Nov. 12 on a charge of murder in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The Memphis Commercial Appeal said it contacted Huie at his Hartselle, Ala., home and he expressed surprise at the committee's action. The newspaper quoted Huie as saying, "everything we have published about the Ray case has been carefully screened by expert legal counsel. If we've committed any contempt, we've certainly tried not to."

The committee, named by Battle to watch over publicity in the case, cited a story Huie wrote for Look. It deals with Ray's activities from the time he escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary until before King was killed here April 4.

Huie said the material for the article came largely from handwritten notes provided by Ray. It was the first of three planned articles with the second scheduled to appear the day Ray goes on trial.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 26

Jackson Daily News

Jackson, Miss.

Date: Nov. 5, 1968

Edition: Home

Author:

Editor: James M. Ward

Title: James Earl Ray

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586-SF1

Submitting Office: Jackson

☐ Being Investigated

157-9586-SF1-99  
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 SERIALIZED FILED  
 NOV 6 1968  
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 #4

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# Broke Muzzle In Ray Case; Is Accused

## FBI Fingerprint Expert Facing Contempt Charge

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — George Bonebrake, a senior FBI fingerprint expert, has been ordered to show cause Dec. 6 why he should not be held in contempt for allegedly violating orders prohibiting out-of-court comments on the James Earl Ray case.

Judge W. Preston Battle of Shelby County Criminal Court said it was impracticable to hold the hearing before Ray goes on trial Nov. 12 for murder in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Battle, who will preside at Ray's trial, has issued stringent orders sharply restricting discussion of the case by anyone connected with it. Bonebrake is expected to be a key prosecution witness.

The judge cited Bonebrake upon the recommendation of a committee of seven attorneys he had set up to watch over pre-trial news. The committee had advised Battle it believed Bonebrake "has actual knowledge of the aforesaid orders, decrees and injunctions issued by this court ... there is strong cause to believe that respondent George Bonebrake is in contempt."

Bonebrake was cited for comments he made about his fingerprint investigation. The comments were published in the Wichita, Kan., Beacon.

Battle earlier held Ray's attorney, a private investigator for the defense and two Memphis newspaper reporters in contempt of the pretrial orders on discussion of the case.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 4

Jackson Daily News

Jackson, Miss.

Date: Oct. 25, 1968

Edition: Home

Author:

Editor: James M. Ward

Title: Murkin

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586-SF1

Submitting Office: Jackson

☐ Being Investigated

157-9586-SF1-78  
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OCT 28 1968  
 FBI - JACKSON  
*#4*

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## Report Ray Worked At Chicago Cafe

CHICAGO (AP) — James Earl Ray, charged with murdering Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., worked for two months in a north suburban restaurant shortly after his 1967 escape from a Missouri prison, the Chicago Tribune said today in a copyright article.

The paper said the disclosure by the owners of a Winnetka restaurant to FBI agents supplied the missing link in Ray's whereabouts since his escape from prison April 3, 1967. King was shot in Memphis, Tenn., on April 14 this year.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Klingeman, owners of the India, Trail Restaurant, hired Ray who was

using the alias of John L. Rayns when he applied for a job on May 3, 1967, the Tribune said. He remained there until June 24, 1967, when he left unexpectedly.

The Klingemans did not learn that their former employe was Ray until mid-August 1968 when they were approached by a writer commissioned by Ray to write his life story, the paper said.

The couple then notified the FBI and were interviewed by agents on Aug. 24.

The Klingemans told the FBI that Ray received two or three phone calls at the restaurant during the week before he quit his job as a food server. Mrs. Klingeman also reported, the paper said, that on the day Ray left an unidentified man appeared at the back door of the restaurant and spoke to him for several minutes.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 18

The Daily Herald

Biloxi, Miss.

Date: Oct. 24, 1968

Edition: Home

Author:

Editor: E. P. Wilkes

Title: James Earl Ray

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586-SF1

Submitting Office: Jackson

☐ Being Investigated

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OCT 28 1968  
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#4



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# Ray's Attorney Says Security Should Be Cut

By BILL JOHNSON

Associated Press Writer

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) —

Four men have been ordered to appear in Shelby County Criminal Court to answer charges of violating an order prohibiting prejudicial statements to news media in the case of James Earl Ray

At the same time, Judge W. Preston Battle is to consider today a contention that tight security arrangements in the jail here are violating the constitutional rights of Ray who is charged with murder in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Ordered to show why they should not be held in contempt were Arthur Hanes Sr., Ray's chief counsel; Renfro Hays, a Memphis private detective hired by Hanes, and reporters Charles Edmundson of the Memphis Commercial Appeal and Roy Hamilton of the Memphis Press-Scimitar.

Hanes charged that around-the-clock lighting, television cameras which monitor Ray's cell 24 hours a day and microphones in the cell constitute cruel and unusual punishment and are endangering Ray's health.

The devices are part of the elaborate security measures initiated at the county jail since Ray's return to the United States from London where he was arrested in June.

Hanes' ~~motion~~ said the de-

fense is uncertain Ray is receiving his constitutional right to confer privately with counsel because of the microphones.

Dist. Atty. Gen. Phil M. Canale denied the charge that lights and television cameras used to monitor Ray's movements are what the defense called an "electronic form of cruel and unusual treatment."

Canale, who will prosecute when Ray comes to trial Nov. 12, said Ray averages about nine hours of sleep per day and is not mistreated.

The contempt proceedings were recommended by a group of attorneys Battle named to keep watch on news coverage in the Ray case.

Battle's order prohibits all connected with the trial from discussing for publication any phase of the King investigation and Ray's arrest and confinement for trial.

The committee acted after stories were published quoting Hanes and the private detective on Ray's health and ability withstand trial.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 1

Jackson Daily News

Jackson, Miss.

Date: Sept. 27, 1968

Edition: Home

Author:

Editor: James M. Ward

Title: James Earl Ray

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586-SF1

Submitting Office: Jackson

☐ Being Investigated

157-9586-SF1-76

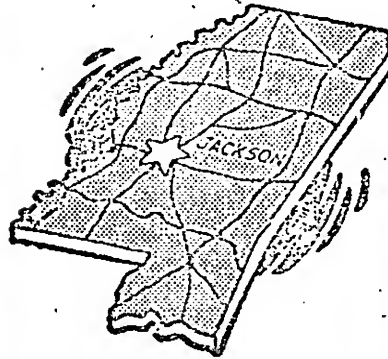
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SEP 30 1968

FBI — JACKSON

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Covering the  
**CROSS-  
ROADS**



with  
**Jimmy Ward**

Regarding the arraignment of James Earl Ray, suspect in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, it may be recalled after King's slaying that many Mississippians feared that a crank from this state might have pulled the trigger. However, Ray seems to have little link with Mississippi. Earlier reports said he was once employed at the shipyard in Pascagoula, but this proved incorrect. Informed sources say the assassin did drink beer sold in Mississippi (at least it bore Mississippi tax stamps) in the rooming house room that afternoon of the slaying. Otherwise, Ray had little contact in Mississippi.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

JACKSON DAILY NEWS

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: JULY 24, 1968  
Edition: HOME  
Author: JIMMY WARD  
Editor: JAMES M. WARD  
Title: MURKIN

Character:  
or

Classification: 157-9586SF1  
Submitting Office: JACKSON

☐ Being Investigated

157-9586-75  
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JUL 25 1968

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## MEMPHIS TRIAL SET FOR NOV. 12

# 'Not Guilty' Plea

# Entered For

## Accused Slayer Of King Makes No Statement

### Initial Appearance Since His Return

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — James Earl Ray pleaded innocent today to a charge of killing Martin Luther King here on April 4, and trial was set for Nov. 12.

Appearing publicly for the first time since his extradition hearings in London, Ray entered his plea through his lawyer, Arthur Hanes of Birmingham.

#### Everybody Searched

Security officers searched persons who entered the Shelby County Criminal Courtroom to witness Ray's arraignment.

Ray, wearing a checked blue sport coat and blue slacks, was led into the courtroom at 10:57 a.m., and the arraignment proceedings ended 12 minutes later. Ray was returned to his steel-lined, air-conditioned cell block in the county jail.

Hanes had both indictments read — one alleging murder in the first degree and the other charging Ray with carrying a dangerous weapon.

#### "Plea Of Innocent"

At the end of each reading, Hanes said:

# Ray

"My client wishes to enter a plea of innocent."

Ray remained silent throughout the arraignment. He was seated at the counsel table between Hanes and Hanes' son, Arthur, Jr. Behind them sat Sheriff William N. Morris and two other officers.

Judge Preston Battle had told Hanes a plea did not have to be entered today and asked whether the defense wanted a recess.

"We will enter a plea to the indictment," Hanes answered.

#### Election Causes Conflict

Battle also asked if Hanes wanted a period of "a few days or a few weeks" to determine when he would be ready to try the case.

Dist. Atty. Gen. Phil Canale told the court he had conferred with Hanes about having the trial in late September — but, he said, it might last until the Nov. 5 general election. Under Tennessee law on-duty jurors cannot cast ballots.

Canale suggested the Nov. 12 date and Battle asked if it could be set earlier. Hanes said he felt the case would be completed in six weeks — the time between late September and election day.

"But I have no idea what the prosecution will put on," Hanes said.

"All right," Battle responded, "let's set the case for Nov. 12."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

THE MERIDIAN STAR

MERIDIAN, MISS.

Date: JULY 22, 1968

Edition: HOME

Author:

Editor: JAMES B. SKEWES

Title: MURKIN

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Classification: 157-9586SF

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| JUL 25 1968   |         |
| FBI - JACKSON |         |

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**KLAN ROBES IN CUSTODY** — Deputies Burkett Herrington, left, and George Butler of the Lauderdale County sheriff's office examine Ku Klux Klan robes this morning. The robes were found inside a building in the county and were reported to Sheriff Alton Allen by an anonymous tip. Last week, three

sticks of dynamite, electric detonators and fuses were found in a chicken house near Collinsville. Sheriff Allen speculated there may be some connection between the two discarded materials. The FBI and sheriff's department are investigating.

—Staff Photo



(Mount

But a nervous policeman accidentally fired a tear gas canister inside driving eight officers and driver pell mell into the street.

# City's 'Tank' Carries Ray In Memphis

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"Thompson's Tank" briefly returned home, transporting James Earl Ray the terminal 25 miles Friday to jail in Memphis, Tenn., behind its armor plate and bulletproof glass.

The tank is an armored riot vehicle named unofficially for Mayor Allen C. Thompson of Jackson, built in Memphis for the city at \$15,000.

Jackson bought the tank after Negro leader Medgar W. Evers was slain in June 1963 and a near-riot by Negroes came after Evers' funeral. More than 1,000 Negro demonstrators were arrested during those weeks.

Shelby County, Tenn., deputies got the tank Thursday and drove it to Memphis, returning it about 10 a.m. Friday, said Jackson Chief of Detectives M. B. Pierce. The tank carried Ray from Memphis Naval Air Station at suburban Millington to county jail downtown.

Thompson's Tank looks like an over-length milk truck with side windows. There are searchlights, sally ports for tear gas and gunfire and anti-tipover bars around the bottom.

The tank was built by J. Tom Moore and Sons Inc., which calls itself "the world's largest manufacturer of armored cars," and is building a quantity of Thompson's Tanks for the state of Virginia at \$35,000 each. The firm also has supplied the Treasury Department, banks and armored car services.

The original Thompson's Tank has gotten into action only a handful of times. For the most part, it's parked on the street at police headquarters, between battery charges and tire repairs.

One night in February 1964, it moved into the Jackson State College area to help quell a disturbance by Negro students. Bricks had been hurled and there were reports of gunshots.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 5

THE CLARION LEDGER

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: JULY 20, 1968

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Author:

Editor: T.M. HEDERMAN JR

Title: JAMES EARL RAY

Character:

or

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Submitting Office: JACKSON

☐ Being Investigated

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JUL 22 1968

FBI - JACKSON

# Jackson "Tank" Transfers Ray To County Jail

James Earl Ray traveled the final 25 miles to jail in Memphis Tenn., today in "Thompson's Tank," a \$15,000 armored car owned by the city of Jackson.

Chief of Detectives M. B. Pierce of Jackson confirmed today that Shelby County, Tenn., deputies got the 13,000-pound vehicle Thursday and used it to transport Ray from Memphis Naval Air Station in suburban Millington to County jail in Memphis.

Jackson bought the tank under Mayor Allen C. Thompson after racial troubles in 1963 that included the sniper murder of Negro leader Medgar W. Evers and a near-riot just after Evers' funeral.

Like an over-length panel truck with windows, the tank has armor plating, searchlights, sally ports for tear gas and gunfire, and finger-piercing steel barbs around the base to prevent tipover by mobs.

In one of its few appearances, the tank moved in on a disturbance by Negro students at Jackson State College one night in February 1964 — and a nervous policeman touched off a tear gas canister inside, sending eight officers and driver pell mell into the street.

But for the most part the tank sits parked on the street outside police headquarters, between battery charges and repairs of flat tires.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

THE JACKSON DAILY  
NEWS

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: JULY 19, 1968

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Author:

Editor: JAMES M. WARD

Title: JAMES EARL RAY

Character:

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Submitting Office: JACKSON

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*MDANIEL*

*orig vice  
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### **THOMPSON'S TANK HAULS RAY**

Thompson's Tank, the armored vehicle bought by the City of Jackson four years ago, was used by Memphis authorities early today to haul James Earl Ray, accused of slaying Martin

Luther King, to a Shelby County jail. The vehicle was back in Jackson at 10 a.m. today. — Daily News-AP Wire-photo.



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)



## RAY ESCORTED TO MEMPHIS JAIL

Sheriff William Morris of Shelby County escorts James Earl Ray to his cell Friday morning after his flight here from London. Ray is handcuffed to a

leather belt and is wearing a bullet-proof vest. Daily News AP Wire-photo.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 5

JACKSON DAILY NEWS

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: JULY 19, 1968  
Edition: HOME  
Author:  
Editor: JAMES M. WARD  
Title: JAMES EARL RAY

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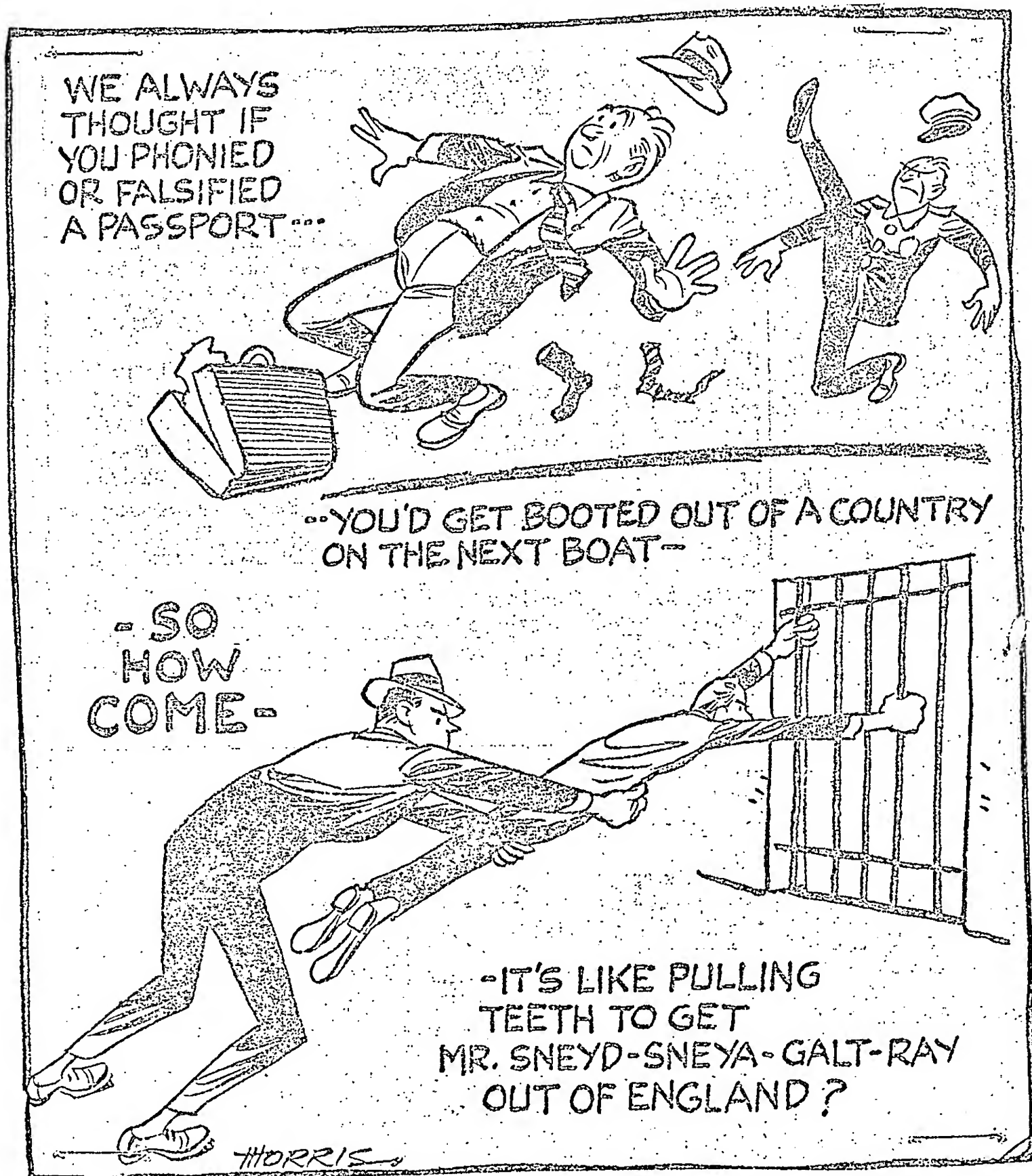
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| JUL 22 1968   |         |
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# 480



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)



(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 8

THE CLARION LEDGER

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: JULY 12, 1968

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Editor: T.M. HEDERMAN JR.

Title: JAMES EARL RAY

Character:

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JUL 15 1968

FBI JACKSON

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Ray, On Stand Denies Slaying

## Says He Never Had Grudge Against King

LONDON (AP) — James Earl Ray, fighting extradition to the United States to stand trial for the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., asserted today he did not kill the Negro civil rights leader.

The prisoner — who is charged here under the alias of Raymond George Sneyd — took the witness stand in a surprise move and testified: "I have never met Dr. King. I have never had any kind of grudge against him."

An FBI expert, George Jacob Bonebrake, had testified that Ray's fingerprints were found on a rifle and binoculars discarded in a shop doorway after King was killed at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tenn., April 4.

"I found one (print) on the rifle and one on the sight and also on the binoculars," Bonebrake said. "I compared them for fingerprints of James Earl Ray in the Los Angeles police file. I found that they belonged to one and the same individual."

Ray's lawyer indicated he would seek to save Ray from extradition by contending that the assassination of King was a political crime.

Under the U.S.-British extradition treaty, political grounds are a principal reason for granting asylum to anyone and barring extradition.

Ray was ringed by detectives but did not wear handcuffs as he mounted the witness stand.

The hearing in Bow Street Magistrates Court was suspended for 10 minutes while he conferred with his British attorney, Nigel Frisby.

Frisby said he would rather Ray neither took the usual oath nor affirmed, meaning taking the oath without invoking God.

This tactic meant that, under English legal procedure, Ray could not be cross-examined by David Calcutt, the British attorney representing the U.S. government.

Wearing a dark suit and heavy horn-rimmed glasses, Ray answered a series of questions from his lawyer. He agreed that he was the man arrested at London Airport June 8. He said he had never met Dr. King and bore him no grudge.

"Did you kill Dr. King?"

"No sir," Ray replied.

Again on his counsel's advice, Ray said he did not wish to sign the court recording of his testimony.

The Bow Street Magistrates Court adjourned then until next Tuesday, when the hearing is expected to end.

Ray was sent back to prison.

Silent through presentation of the prosecution's case, Ray declared at the windup of that phase of the hearing that "parts of some of the testimony are false and some are exaggerated."

"I would like to disagree with them and say something about this," he said.

Chief Magistrate Frank Milton had advised him about his right to call witnesses and give testimony in his own behalf.

When the court resumed Frisby said Ray disagreed with many of the facts given by Detective Chief Supt. Thomas Butler of Scotland Yard.

In a dramatic high point of the hearing, Butler had testified that, on hearing in his prison cell that the police identified him as an American wanted for a killing rather than as Canadian George Sneyd, his alias, Ray slumped into a seat and said: "Oh God ... I feel so trapped."

Frisby said Ray wished in particular "to state most emphatically that he did not make the observation: 'I feel so trapped.'"

"Nor did he say 'Oh God,' nor did he collapse on the seat in the manner which the chief superintendent described," Frisby said.

In court maneuvering, Frisby raised the matter of King's involvement in American politics. He questioned Bonebrake closely about this in an effort to get statements about such political involvement in the record.

The FBI agent admitted under questioning that there had been a certain amount of dislike for King in the United States.

Peter Hopkirk, a correspond-

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

JACKSON DAILY NEWS

JACKSON, MISS.

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FBI - JACKSON

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ent of the London Times, appeared for the defense on a subpoena.

Hopkirk said he was in the United States in April covering the presidential primaries. He went to Memphis the morning after King was killed and spent four or five days there inquiring into his death.

"It was no secret that he was disliked by many white people living in the South," Hopkirk said.

Bonebrake said he found from the print on the rifle 14 characteristics the same as on the prints on file for Ray, a fugitive from the Missouri State Penitentiary. He found 11 similar characteristics from the prints on the telescopic sight.

Cross-examined by Frisby, the court-appointed lawyer defending Ray, Bonebrake agreed that King was a nationally known figure.

Bonebrake said he knew of

King's movement, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. But he said that, to the best of his recollection, he knew of no conference commitment to any political party.

When the court suspended session for a luncheon break, detectives continued to guard all doors of the courthouse. Newsmen had to show credentials to get in or out and members of the public were searched for weapons.

The U. S. government was represented by a British lawyer, David Calcutt. He told Magistrate Frank Milton that Ray's fingerprints were found on the rifle which police recovered after King was shot in Memphis, Tenn., April 4.

"The bullet which killed Dr. King was examined when recovered," he continued, "and there is a strong likelihood that the bullet came from the rifle found by the police."

Calcutt ~~to the~~ crowded Bow Street Court that King was the victim of "a calculated, brutal and senseless murder—a murder that was bitter with irony."

"Though his name was a very password for peace," Calcutt said, "he met a violent death."

"This tragic death of Dr. King was the working of the single hand of this man," he declared, referring to Ray.

The 40-year-old escaped convict was brought into the court today to hear Calcutt outline the U.S. government's case for his extradition.

With two British lawyers to defend him, Ray was expected to fight extradition and appeal to the High Court if Milton ruled that he should be returned to the United States. This could extend the process for weeks.

It was Ray's third court appearance under the alias of Raymond George Sneyd, the name on the Canadian passport he was carrying when he was arrested June 8 at London airport. His two previous trips to Bow Street for preliminary hearings had been brief, and the proceedings today provided the first extensive look at the U.S. government's case against him.

Referring throughout to Ray as Sneyd, Calcutt gave the court this account:

On March 29, six days before King was killed in Memphis, Tenn., Ray went to a store in Birmingham, Ala., kept by a Mr. Wood and bought a rifle with telescopic sights and ammunition. There was another customer in the shop at the time.

The following day Ray was not satisfied and wanted to change the rifle. He took instead a Remington 760 which had telescopic sights attached to it. He also bought and took away a box of ammunition and a box which was not the right box for that particular gun.

"On April 3, Sneyd (Ray)

booked in at the New Revel Motor Hotel at ~~Memphis~~, the lawyer continued. "On the following day he checked out of the hotel and on that day in Memphis he bought a pair of binoculars."

Also on that day, Calcutt said, King was in Memphis, staying at the Lorraine Motel.

As Calcutt unfolded the story, four plainclothes detectives sat on a bench facing newsmen and the public gallery. All members of the public had been searched as they ~~came into~~ court.

Ray sat in front of the prison-

er's dock with a detective on either side of him.

The court was tense as Calcutt continued his story.

"From bathroom window at 424½ South Main Street, a person could see into Dr. King's room."

"At 4 o'clock in the afternoon this defendant went to 424½ South Main Street, where accommodation was available, and he booked a room. As he did this he was seen by a witness, a Mr. Stevens.

"The defendant got a room and, between then and 6 o'clock in the evening, he used the bathroom and the lavatory. Mr. Stevens, who was in the adjoining room, says that the man used the bathroom and the lavatory on three occasions, each time for a long time."

Calcutt continued:

"At 6 o'clock Mr. Stevens says he heard a shot fired from the bathroom. He came out of his room and saw a man leaving below. He says it was the man who he had seen booking in earlier."

"The defendant left in a hurry, leaving binocular straps in his room. When he got out of the hotel entrance, he turned left and dropped his kit of rifle, sights and binoculars in the doorway."

"He then made off in a car waiting nearby."

"He then made off in a car waiting nearby."

Calcutt said the Memphis police took possession of the rifle and binoculars. They say the defendant's fingerprints were on them, he added.

"These tie in with the defendant's face picture and fingerprints," Calcutt said. "The bullet which killed Dr. King was examined when recovered and there is a strong likelihood that the bullet came from the rifle found by the police.

"It is also likely that the strap found in his room belonged to the binoculars found with the rifle."



## ALLEN-SCOTT REPORT

# Ray Hunt Cost \$5-Million, Brilliant FBI Trackdown

By PAUL SCOTT

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation went through one very tense period and spent more than \$5 million during their brilliantly conducted two-continent man hunt for James Earl Ray, the accused killer of Dr. Martin Luther King.

After successfully tracking and locating Ray in London early in May, the G-men temporarily lost his trail when he slipped through their surveillance network and flew to Portugal.

While Ray's disappearance almost caused a near panic among top Justice Department officials here, cooler-headed FBI agents directing the search kept the search from collapsing by immediately setting up a new dragnet.

With only the lead that Ray, alias Raymon George Sneyd, had apparently fled to Europe, the FBI agents reasoned that because of his temperament and the foreign language barrier he would soon return to an English-speaking country.

### SPECIAL WATCHES

Special watches for Ray were then carefully organized at all ports of entry in Great Britain, Canada, and the U.S., on the belief that the suspect would try to return to one of those nations.

Before any heads within the agency could roll, the swift chain of events that followed proved the effectiveness of the FBI strategy.

Eleven days after his second disappearance, Ray, alias Sneyd, flew back to London from Lisbon. With the help of British authorities, the FBI again picked up his trail.

Ray was then kept under close surveillance until he suddenly prepared again to depart Great Britain for Europe — this time for Brussels. He was arrested at London Airport before he could board his plane.

Despite Ray's capture, the FBI investigation of King's assassination is far from being closed.

One agent involved in the inquiry says privately that "the arrest of Ray is only the beginning of this inquiry." He points out that "Ray is the key to determining the others involved in the assassination plot."

For instance, FBI and Canadian authorities are still investigating how Ray was able to exploit legal loopholes like a pro in obtaining his Canadian passport.

Several dozen agents are probing Ray's alleged contacts with U.S.-based American South African Council which he wrote on Dec. 30, 1967, to ask about emigrating to Rhodesia. Also, being carefully checked is Ray's contact with a person, whom the FBI photographed with King at a major U.S. airport.

One of the ironies of the successful FBI investigation is that just two months before the King assassination, the Bureau was obliged to cut in half the number of agents in Europe, including those in London as a result of President Johnson's order slashing overseas personnel of government security and intelligence agencies.

When Ray's trail led to London, however, many of these agents were sent back overseas with instructions to forget about

the economy move until the suspected assassin was picked up.

In their intensive search for

King's killer, the FBI spent more than \$5 million in the first nine weeks of its investigation. At times, upward to 3,000 agents were assigned to the case.

Half that number of agents are still involved in the continuing investigation. In addition to running down new leads, they are rechecking Ray's travels to and from Memphis the scene of the assassination.

### LIFTING THE LID

One of the most important decisions that President Johnson will make before leaving office next January concerns possible publication of sealed documents from the Warren Commission inquiry of the assassination of President Kennedy.

At least 20 per cent of the commission's files remain locked in the National Archives, where the full record of the Kennedy assassination probe is filed.

A list of more than 250 of the sealed documents was prepared recently by attorneys of the Justice Department for further reexamination to determine if their publication should be recommended to the President.

Most intriguing are reports of the Central Intelligence Agency dealing with the private reaction of high Cuban officials to the assassination.

Another deals with a top secret CIA memorandum from Richard Helms (now CIA director) to J. Lee Rankin, chief counsel of the Warren Commission. It is listed under the heading: "Report of conversations between Cuban President and Cuban Ambassador."

Also still under seal is a CIA memorandum from Helms to the commission which carries the

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 8

JACKSON DAILY NEWS

JACKSON, MISS.

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| FBI - JACKSON |         |

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following notation: "Discussions between Soviet Premier Khrushchev and Drew Pearson re Lee Harvey Oswald." Neither Helms nor Pearson ever commented publicly on this memorandum or its content.

Still unpublished among the many FBI reports in the Archives is the agency's interview with Yuri Nosenko, a high-ranking member of the KGB, the Soviet Secret police, who defected to the U.S. 10 weeks after the assassination of President Kennedy.

The 36-year-old defector, had been questioned at length about the KGB's handling of Oswald during the time the ex-marine lived in Russia.

Before his defection to the West, Nosenko worked in a sector of the KGB which handled U.S. defectors, including Oswald's case.

Another of the FBI investigative reports still sealed in the Archives, is titled:

"The investigation concerning telephone numbers found on the 47th page of Oswald's address book."

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

**TENTATIVELY**

## Birmingham Attorney Accepts Ray Defense

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — A Birmingham attorney has tentatively accepted defense of the man accused of assassinating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Arthur J. Hanes, 51, said in a news conference here that he has been contacted by a man who identified himself as R. G. Sneyd, now imprisoned in London, and by London attorneys for Sneyd, regarding the case.

The FBI has said that Sneyd actually is James Earl Ray and has used the name Eric Starvo

Galt. A first degree murder warrant has been issued for Ray charging him with the King slaying.

Ray was arrested in London June 8. Extradition proceedings are underway to return him to the United States to face trial in Memphis, Tenn., where King was slain.

### TO FLY TO LONDON

Hanes said he and his son and partner, Arthur Hanes Jr., will fly to London to look into the case. He said he hopes to determine whether he will have full representation of Ray in the United States. He said he will interview Ray and, if he accepts the case, begin preparation of the defense immediately.

Hanes said he received a telephone call from one of Ray's London attorneys, Michael Eugene of the London law firm of Michael Dresden & Co. Hanes added, he received a handwritten letter signed "R. G. Sneyd" asking that he handle the case in the United States if extradition proceedings are successful.

### READ OF HANES

He said the writer indicated that he had read of Hanes while in prison in the United States. Ray served time in a Missouri prison and is wanted there for escape.

Hanes said the letter and phone call were the first contact he has ever had with Ray. "This came like a bolt out of the blue," he said.

Hanes added that he "understands that this man has funds," but said he has been given no indication as to who might pay defense fees.

Hanes received international attention when he defended three men accused of murdering civil rights worker Mrs. Viola Gregg Liuzzo at Hayneville, Ala., in 1956.

Hanes served as Birmingham mayor in the early 1960s. He is a former president of the Birmingham board of education and is a former FBI agent. He has been a frequent critic of the federal government's integration efforts.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 5

THE CLARION LEDGER

JACKSON, MISS.

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Editor: T.M. HEDERMAN JR.

Title: JAMES EARL RAY

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Ray Extradition Request Examined

LONDON (AP) — Lawyers at the British Home Office today were examining the U.S. application to extradite James Earl Ray to ensure it established a case against the 40-year-old escaped convict accused of slaying Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The application was sent to the Home Office, the British equivalent of the U.S. Justice Department, after clearing its first legal hurdle in the Foreign Office a few hours after U. S. Consul General Jack Herfurt delivered the bulky petition.

Court formalities and appeals could delay Ray's return up to six weeks or longer if he fights extradition.

The inch-thick petition contains a summary of evidence against Ray in connection with the assassination of King at a Memphis motel April 4. It also contains information on his escape from the Missouri State Prison while serving a sentence for armed robbery, along with fingerprints and other identification material.

The United States is seeking extradition on both charges and must satisfy a British judge that both would be crimes under British law.

The Foreign Office certified that the petition came within the terms of the 1931 extradition treaty between the two countries. The Home Office said that if it finds the petition in order, it should be in the hands of Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Frank Milton sometime today. Milton is expected to schedule a hearing about a week after receiving it.

If Milton grants extradition, Ray would have 15 days to appeal to the High Court and if the High Court ~~upheld~~ the extradition order, he would have another

14 days to appeal to the House of Lords, Britain's supreme court.

Michael Dresden, the British lawyer appointed for Ray, has given no indication whether Ray would fight extradition and has refused to comment on the case.

Scotland Yard continued its investigation of Ray's movements in London during the three weeks prior to his arrest last Saturday, and suspicion continued that he had a contact man.

Jane Nassau, a receptionist at one of the hotels where Ray stayed, told newsmen that police are looking for another vacationing receptionist, to ask her whether someone accompanied Ray when he arrived at the hotel.

In Toronto, where Ray went after the killing of King, police continued to look for a fat man who reportedly delivered an envelope to him.

The Toronto Star said in a copyright story that a cab driver reported picking up "a big fat man" May 2 across the street from the rooming house where Ray was staying.

The cab driver, Manuel Reis, 35, said he drove the man and an unidentified companion to a bank three blocks away, the Star reported.

Earlier this week the landlady of the rooming house said she saw a tall fat man hand an envelope to Ray.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

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#4



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# King Death Suspect Nabbed In London

## Escaped Con Ray Tracked By Passport

(Other Photo, Story Pages 4,13)

OTTAWA (AP) - A photograph unearthed in a check of 200,000 to 400,000 Canadian passport applications led to the arrest in London Saturday of James Earl Ray, wanted in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a Foreign Affairs spokesman said.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police found the picture in a month-long search of Foreign Affairs Department files and quickly discovered that the application to which it was at-

tached—in the name of Ramon George Sneyd—was fraudulent.

Police said Ray used names the same as those of two Toronto-area residents during a one-month stay in Toronto. Ramon George Sneyd is the name of a constable who police said knew nothing of Ray.

The other alias, Paul Bridgman, is the name of a teacher who lives in Toronto suburb. It resembles closely that of Paul Bridgeman, an inmate at the Missouri state penitentiary, from which Ray is listed as a fugitive.

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover said Ray was carrying a fully loaded pistol but offered no re-

sistance as he was seized before he could reboard a plane bound from Lisbon, Portugal, to Brussels.

British authorities charged the arrested man with using a false Canadian passport and with carrying a concealed weapon. He is to have a hearing on these charges Monday. Meanwhile he is held without bond under maximum security conditions at London's Cannon Row police station.

### PRINTS MATCH

It was learned authoritatively that a check of Ray's finger-

prints was used in identifying the arrested man as the long-time criminal wanted in King's murder. The arrest was made at 11:15 a.m. London time, 5:15 a.m. C.D.T.

Ray was wanted on federal charges of conspiracy to deny King his civil rights and, on a first-degree murder indictment returned in Memphis, Tenn.

It is expected that extradition will besought on the more serious charge of murder but the formal application is unlikely to be lodged with London authorities before Monday or Tuesday.

Memphis officials hailed the arrest and said Ray will be

brought to trial as soon as possible.

Ray was reported wearing a sports jacket, flannel trousers, light raincoat and glasses when he deplaned from the Lisbon-Brussels flight at London.

He had checked his luggage through to Brussels when he boarded the plane at Lisbon but got off when the aircraft made a refueling stop in London.

It was learned here that Ray had flown from Canada to London May 6 with a round trip ticket but cashed in the return portion in exchange for passage to Lisbon and went right on to Portugal without stopping in the British capital.

### PICK UP TRIAL

The FBI, with the help of the RCMP, had picked up Ray's trail in Canada and officers satisfied themselves a few days ago that the man bearing a passport in Sneyd's name was, in fact, Ray.

It then became a matter of intercepting the bearer of this passport and immigration authorities were alerted on a wide scale.

The Canadian passports, he was carrying when arrested described him as 35, unemployed, born in Toronto and having no fixed address.

Hoover praised the cooperation of the Canadian police and Scotland Yard but said Ray's arrest was the direct result of an intensive investigation by the FBI that covered 45 states, Canada, Mexico, Portugal, Eng-

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

THE CLARION LEDGER

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FBI JACKSON

land and other countries.

The FBI produced a massive file on Ray's activities up to the time of King's death and gathered such personal information as that he was an avid dancer, liked beer and was a loner.

The detailed description furnished by the FBI led to mystery and confusion in the manhunt as many who claimed to have been the gunman after the shooting of King provided contradictory information. For example, some said the gunman was in his late 20s, in contrast to Ray's age ~~of 35~~.

A chief source of speculation

about the shooting has been that Ray was part of a group that plotted King's death with care, but no other persons are known to be involved at this point.

Ray had served seven years of a 20-year sentence for armed robbery when he escaped from prison. A fellow inmate at the time said Ray told him he would be willing to kill King for \$1 million.

Ray, the son of a laborer, had a long list of arrests for burglary, vagrancy, driving a car without an operator's license and forgery. He was a man of many aliases, including Eric Starvo Galt, John Willard, Harvey Lowmyer, James McBridge, James Walton, James O'Conner. And now, Ramon George Sneyd.

Hoover said Ray is being held under maximum security conditions in a London police station. It is expected he will be brought into court by London authorities Monday on the charges of false documentation and carrying a concealed weapon.

At the State Department, officials said they expect a formal request will be made for his return to the United States under a U.S.-British extradition treaty, which lists murder as one of the crimes for which extradition will be authorized.



**SEARCH WARRANT** obtained by the Royal Canadian Police unearthed this photo of James Earl Ray and led to his capture in London as a suspect in the slaying of Martin Luther King.



JAMES EARL RAY

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

**CANADA**

# Ray Lived Quietly In Bleak Room

TORONTO (AP) — James Earl Ray spent two weeks of the month he lived in Canada in a bleak 15-by-12-foot room that had a television set, a "Home Sweet Home" design and a picture of Christ.

The woman who was his landlady in April said she thought she recognized him at the time from a newspaper sketch of the man wanted in the murder of Martin Luther King Jr. But her husband told her she was wrong and so they forgot it.

## SUCH A GUNSMAN

Later, said Mrs. Adam Szpakowski, she walked into Ray's room to clean and found a newspaper folded open to the sketch. She said her suspicions were not aroused because "he was such a gentleman."

"How was I to know he was a bandit?" said Mrs. Szpakowski of the man who lived at her rooming house at 102 Ossington Ave. under the name of Paul Bridgman.

She said the man knocked on her door April 8, four days after the assassination of King in Memphis, Tenn., asked the weekly rate and handed over the first week's rent—\$10.

He had one suit of clothes, a raincoat and a small bag, she said.

Mrs. Szpakowski said the man she knew as Bridgman left his second-floor room about 8:30 a.m. every day, returned about noon and left again until after supper. She said he spent most evenings in his room.

## DIDN'T SEE MUCH

"We never saw much of him," said Mrs. Szpakowski, a Polish immigrant. "He paid his rent and rarely spoke."

The man told her he was a real estate salesman, she said.

Mrs. Szpakowski said one letter arrived for him, addressed to Bridgman and bearing the return address of 70 Lombard St.,

Toronto, location of the provincial registrar's office, which issues birth certificates.

On that day, Mrs. Szpakowski said, the same day she noticed the newspaper in his room, the man left the house and never returned.

Police now believe that King's accused assassin, captured in London Saturday with two Canadian passports, was trying to assume the identity of a Canadian about 40 years old, Ray's own age.

Somehow, said Deputy Chief B.J. Simmonds of the Metropolitan Toronto Police, Ray was able to obtain enough information on a Paul Bridgman living in suburban Don Mills and Ramon George Sneyd, a Toronto constable, to apply for passports by mail in both their names. He eventually assumed Sneyd's identity.

"Our job now," Simmonds said, "is to ascertain how Ray got that information."

A Foreign Office source said Ray also was able to obtain a Canadian birth certificate. He did not say, however, under whose name.

## CALLS SIMPLE

H.F.C. Humphries, deputy registrar for Ontario Province, said Ray could easily have obtained a birth certificate. He said application forms require the name, place and date of birth of the person to be named in the certificate and the name of the person's parents. That information, he said, can be obtained from birth notices and telephone directories.

## USED BOTH NAMES

Ray apparently knew that Bridgman was a consultant teacher with the Toronto Board of Education. He used the name Bridgman when he had passport photos made at Mabel Agnew's photographic studio April 11. Later, when Ray booked a flight to London, trav-

el agent Lillian Spencer said he used the name George Sneyd, giving Bridgman as a person to be contacted in case of illness or accident.

The woman who took his picture at the photo shop, Margaret Eakin, recalled only that the man she snapped looked like the "normal business executive type."

Before Ray left Canada May 6 — the police were apparently unaware of his presence in Toronto at the time — he took a room in another board house, a three-story building run by a Chinese woman, Mrs. Yee Loo. She barely speaks English.

## NEVER SPOKE

She said Ray "never spoke to anybody. He came about four weeks ago with only a suit on his back and a newspaper in his hand."

Mrs. Loo said Ray gave his name as Sneyd, described himself as a hospital worker, took a back room for \$9 a week, stayed in the room all day and was out all night.

She said he was an ideal roomer — quiet never used the telephone and received only one letter.

Ray's identity was uncovered after a month-long search of more than 200,000 Canadian passport photographs. The word was passed to the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation and law enforcement agencies in Europe.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

THE CLARION LEDGER

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: JUNE 10, 1968

Edition: HOME

Author:

Editor: T.M. HEDERMAN JR.

Title: JAMES EARL RAY

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586sf1

Submitting Office: JACKSON

☐ Being Investigated

157-9586sf1-64

SEARCHED INDEXED

SERIALIZED FILED

JUN 10 1968

FBI JACKSON



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# U.S. Moves To Speed Ray Extradition Action

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

THE CLARION LEDGER

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: JUNE 10, 1968  
Edition: HOME  
Author:  
Editor: T.M. HEDERMAN JR.  
Title: JAMES EARL RAY

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586sf1  
Submitting Office: JACKSON

☐ Being Investigated

157-9586-SF1-63

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| SERIALIZED    | FILED   |
| JUN 10 1968   |         |
| FBI - JACKSON |         |

## Asst. Atty. General Sees Suspect In King Slaying

LONDON (AP) — Asst. U.S. Atty. Gen. Fred M. Vinson Jr. visited James Earl Ray in a heavily guarded police station Sunday, then began moving to get the accused killer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. back to the United States as quickly as possible. As he did, a new element of mystery in the case arose.

Airport sources said that Ray, seized Saturday while trying to board a flight for Brussels, could have gone from the Lisbon plane that brought him to London directly to the transit lounge, and thus avoided immigration officers.

His capture indicated he left the transit lounge — either to meet someone or possibly to kill time — and consequently got caught.

### COULD BE LONGER

Vinson talked with British authorities about Ray's extradition, a procedure which would take two to three weeks under normal conditions. But if Ray hired lawyers to challenge the action, the process could run considerably longer with an initial hearing and possible appeals.

Ray, 40, was being kept under tight security at Cannon Row police station in preparation for his appearance Monday morning at Bow Street Magistrate's Court. He will answer there to

two charges growing out of his arrest at Heathrow Airport — traveling under a false passport and illegal possession of a fire arm.

In Memphis, Tenn., where King was killed, Phil M. Canale, Shelby County attorney general, said Ray would be returned to stand trial for first-degree murder with all "deliberate speed." In Washington, 6th graf including A039 insert

### REMAINS SILENT

In Washington, U.S. Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark said Ray has made no statement and would not be questioned except in a manner "in strict conformity to applicable legal standards."

Clark said Vinson's top priorities in his mission are to see that Ray is as secure as he can be—that nothing happens to him—and that he is returned to the United States for trial as soon as possible.

Clark said he could make no estimate of how soon Ray might be returned. He said it is possible Ray might waive extradition or that he might be deported under an "exclusion principle" of British law. Clark did not elaborate.

He said he is working with Tennessee Gov. Buford Ellington, Vinson and British officials

on the question of extradition that proves necessary.

Asked about a possible conspiracy in the murder of King, particularly in view of the suspect's expensive travel without known financial means, Clark said:

"We have to go on the evidence and facts. At this time we have no evidence of a conspiracy. If there was one, it will be discovered."

Clark said Ray "is a person who lived a life of crime" and it was plausible that he might have financed his travels that way.

Clark was interviewed on the ABC radio-television program "Issues and Answers."

A yard spokesman said Ray was under constant surveillance. "This is a big fish," he told a caller.

Ray, who disappeared for two months after King's assassination April 4, had a loaded pistol in his hip pocket when immigration officers seized.

After arriving in London Sunday to "expedite the extradition," Vinson met at Scotland Yard headquarters with Chief Superintendent Thomas Butler, head of the flying squad that handled Britain's Great Train Robbery case, and Chief Inspector Kenneth Thomson. They were reported offering Vinson full cooperation in speeding the extradition process.

### DECLINED DETAILS

Talking with newsmen, Vinson declined to say if he would seek to return Ray on the federal charge of conspiring to deny



King his civil rights or on a Tennessee charge that he murdered King.

Legal sources said that to extradite Ray, American authorities would have to submit an application at Bow Street Court for the prisoner's provisional arrest — to keep him in jail — under the British-American extradition treaty.

To support this, the court would require material evidence showing there was a case against Ray. The British court would weigh the evidence and grant leave for extradition if a magistrate agreed the evidence was material and justifiable. This, normally, would take two or three weeks.

Ray could contest the extradition application and possibly the evidence as well, provided he hired or obtained a lawyer. If a magistrate overruled that defense, Ray could appeal and the case would go to a higher court.

Under provisional arrest, Ray would have to appear before a magistrate once every seven days for police, under the habeas corpus principle, to show reason why he was still being held.

The suspect was booked under the name of Ramon George Sneyd, the name which appeared on his false Canadian passport, but the Justice Department said he definitely was Ray.

#### ALL KNOWN ALIASES

An American Embassy official said Ray's extradition papers would include "all his known aliases," and that the name Sneyd would raise no problems in that respect.

The narrow street leading to Cannon Row police station, about 200 yards from the House of Parliament, was deserted Sunday, in marked contrast to the crowd which milled there after word of Ray's arrest was announced Saturday.

The iron gates leading to the station and the former headquarters of Scotland Yard were open and guarded by a pair of tall London bobbies. They denied entrance to newsmen, say-

ing: "The desk sergeant is not available."

#### TOURISTS PASS

Hundreds of tourists passed by the entrance to Cannon Row, but none was seen venturing down the narrow street. Police signs blocked the path of automobiles.

Ray was seized by immigration officials at Heathrow Airport after he stopped over at 6:10 a.m. Saturday on a British European Airways jet from Lisbon. He was headed for Brussels.

At the immigration barrier for transit passengers, officials asked Ray to enter their office "for further inquiries" on suspicion that his Canadian passport was false.

#### FOUND GUN

Searching him they found the loaded revolver.

Police made their formal arrest at 11:15 a.m. five hours after Ray's arrival. But they kept a close security clamp on him and repeatedly denied that they were holding him even after the announcement of his arrest came from Washington.

Scotland Yard confirmed the arrest later but a police statement gave the arrested man's name only as Ramon George Sneyd.

Chief Inspector Butler said: "Although the man claims to be Sneyd, his physical description is in fact identical to that of James Earl Ray."

#### EASIEST IS BEST

Vinson told newsmen at London airport earlier that people in America were "delighted" at Ray's arrest and that was greeted with "a great feeling of relief."

He gave the impression he did him for a long time," Vinson said.

Vinson was asked whether he would apply for a voluntary or a compulsory extradition order.

"The easiest way is always the best one," he replied.

He gave the impression he did not anticipate any difficulty or much delay in bringing Ray back to the United States for trial.

It was learned that Ray had flown from Canada to London May 6 with a round-trip ticket but cashed in the return portion in exchange for passage to Lisbon and went right on to Portugal getting off in the British Capital.

#### PICKED UP TRAIL

The FBI, with the help of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, had picked up Ray's trail in Canada — apparently after he left — and officers satisfied themselves a few days ago that the man bearing a passport in Sneyd's name was Ray.

It then became a matter of intercepting the bearer of the passport.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Sensational Clues Emerge In Deepening King Probe

By PAUL SCOTT

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The Federal Bureau of Investigation's massive probe of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King is taking a possibly sensational turn.

With James Earl Ray, the suspected assassin, apparently either outside the U. S. or now dead, FBI agents have increased their surveillance of several American Communists known to have been closely associated with King, including one who wrote speeches for him in the past.

This new development was triggered by evidence gathered by the more than 1,000 agents who have worked on the mysterious King shooting and by several "tips" and letters sent to the FBI.

## INTERESTING TIP

One of the most interesting of these "tips" came from an alert TV viewer and concerns the now famous "Mountain Top" speech King made on April 3, the night before his slaying, showing a premonition of his impending death.

"If the speech was truly made in Memphis on April 3 as reported," the letter pointed out, "then how can one account for King stating his age as 36 (instead of 39) and why does he speak of demonstrating in Alabama twice during the speech?"

After checking out the time and location of King's final speech, several of the crack FBI agents assigned to the case decided to begin seeking answers to a number of their own questions, including:

"If King had personally written that speech, why would he make mistakes like those contained in it — especially the one involving his age?"

"If the speech was written by someone other than King, who was the author and when was it written?"

The answers to these questions are considered highly important to the investigation, since, if another person was concerned in the preparation of that speech, the writer might be able to shed new light on it — especially those mistakes.

Also, if King had received help with the speech, the passages dealing with the civil rights leader's premonition of death would probably have been fully discussed. King's request to the Detroit police department for protection when he visited that city a few weeks before his death indicated he feared for his life then.

Information gathered by the FBI on King, prior to his assassination, showed that a secret member of the Communist Party's executive committee was one of King's closest advisers and speech writers.

This ghost writer for King prepared many of his most famous speeches, according to testimony given by FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover during a closed door meeting of a House Appropriations subcommittee.

Since Ray during his trips prior to King's assassination visited the same city in which this ghost writer lives, the FBI is now investigating to determine if the two met covertly.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 12

Jackson Daily News

Jackson, Miss.

Date: 5/31/68

Edition:

Author: Paul Scott

Editor: James M. Ward

Title: MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586-SF1

Submitting Office: Jackson

☐ Being Investigated

157-9586-SF162

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| JUN 3 1968    |         |
| FBI - JACKSON |         |
| #4            |         |

*Prudista*

Recent evidence gathered by FBI agents in one of the most massive probes in the nation's history has forced serious investigation of these possibilities:

That somebody close to King or within his own organization tipped off his assassin as to the civil rights leader's routine on the day of his slaying.

That Ray was hired directly by certain black nationalists who paid him with money made available by foreign sources.

That an international Communist "assassin squad" was involved in the slaying.

Because of Ray's mysterious trip to Mexico and Canada shortly before the assassination, the entire U. S. intelligence operation, ranging from the Central Intelligence Agency to the Defense Intelligence Agency, has been pressed into the hunt for King's killer.

One CIA report indicates that Ray, who is linked to the murder weapon by fingerprints and ballistic data, may have visited Cuba during his Mexican trip, according to information furnished by a Mexican airline official.

The FBI assumption is that, if there was a conspiracy to kill King, those involved made arrangements to spirit their hired killer out of the U. S. to Cuba via either Mexico or Canada.

#### CHANGING TIMES

Probably the greatest irony of the probe of King's assassination is that FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, one of the civil rights leader's severest critics when he was alive, is doing everything in his power to solve the case.

On the other hand, King's closest aides in the Southern Christian Leadership Conference are showing little or no

interest in whether the killer is found.

When Rev. Ralph Abernathy, King's successor as president of the SCLC, presented a series of demands to Attorney General Ramsey Clark for the "Poor People's" campaign none of these called for more intensive effort to solve King's assassination.

According to persons who attended the meeting, nothing was said about King's death or the FBI investigation, although a number of the poor in "Resurrection City" had urged Abernathy to press for a more vigorous probe.

Congressional supporters of Hoover say there are a number of compelling reasons for Abernathy's silence. Most important of these is King's instruction to key aides of his Southern Christian Leadership Conference not long before his death that no verbal attacks were to be made against Hoover or the FBI for fear of counter action by the FBI director.

The last time King blasted Hoover and the FBI publicly, these lawmakers pointed out, the FBI director called the Negro leader the "most notorious liar" that he had ever known—a statement Hoover has never retracted.

At the time, the King - Hoover exchange resulted in a White House arranged meeting at which the veteran FBI director did most of the talking.

According to an unpublished account given to House Appropriations subcommittee members, Hoover frankly told King that if King ever repeated his unfounded charges against the FBI, everything he knew about King would be made public.

After that blunt warning, King refrained from ever repeating his attack against either Hoover or the FBI. Rev. Abernathy, who accompanied King to Washington for that meeting with Hoover, adopted the same policy.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## Civil Rights Forces Rest Shelby Case

GREENVILLE, Miss. (AP) — The civil rights forces seeking an injunction against a curfew law in Shelby have rested their case after testimony before U.S. Dist. Court Judge William C. Keady.

Armand Derfner, staff counsel for the Lawyers' Constitutional Defense Committee, rested the case Monday shortly after Shelby Mayor C. Scott Morrison said the curfew was imposed shortly after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated.

Morrison said it was ordered into effect, "because they were having riots in Memphis and Washington and other big cities and we didn't want any riots in Shelby."

The mayor and Police Chief G. G. Griffin said a companion proclamation ordering police to disperse groups of more than five persons was in effect only for a three-day period after King's death. But Diane Border, 15, a school girl active in protests of the Shelby Education Committee said she was in a group of eight youngsters last Saturday when police ordered them to "break into groups of five or less."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 5

Jackson Daily News

Jackson, Miss.

Date: 5/29/68

Edition: Home

Author:

Editor: James M. Ward

Title: MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586SF1-61

Submitting Office: Jackson

☐ Being Investigated

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#41



# FBI Has Doubts Skeleton Is Ray's

MAHANAY CITY, Pa. (UPI)

The FBI said today there appeared to be nothing to indicate a body found in a shallow grave near here last May 8 was that of the alleged slayer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Agent Hugh C. Norton said at Pottsville the FBI "would be very pleased to find Dr. King's killer alive or dead. But we can't manufacture a body out of thin air."

Norton said the FBI and state police have been investigating to determine whether the skeletal remains may match some characteristics of James Earl Ray, sought in the King slaying.

"As far as I can see, there is

no indication they are the same people," Norton said. "If we find a dead body in somebody's back yard we are going to check it."

Joe D. Jamieson, head of the Philadelphia FBI office, said there was no reason to believe the skeleton found in a grave in pinewoods was that of Ray, who authorities said shot and killed King in Memphis, Tenn., April 4.

Norton said the FBI was awaiting arrival of dental charts of Ray from veterans' hospitals and prisons where he had served time as a "routine" administrative procedure.

Dist. Atty. Richard Russell of Schuylkill County expressed the

belief the body was that of a gangland slaying victim.

Russell said it was a "million to one chance" that the body was Ray's.

Norton also said the discovery of a white Mustang in 45 feet of water in a nearby lake was of no significance, pointing out a car of similar description said to have been purchased by Ray was found abandoned in the South.

"There is no connection between this auto and the one Ray used," he said.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 3

THE LEADER CALL

LAUREL, MISS.

Date: MAY 23, 1968

Edition: DAILY

Author:

Editor: J. W. WEST

Title: JAMES EARL RAY

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586sf1

Submitting Office: JACKSON

☐ Being Investigated

157-9586-SF1-60  
SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED

MAY 29 1968

FBI - JACKSON

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Body May Be Ray

POTTSVILLE, Pa. (AP) — State police and local officials reported Thursday night they were investigating the remote possibility the body of a man found in a shallow grave near here was that of the alleged assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Richard Russell, Schuylkill County district attorney, said state police have asked the FBI for dental records of 40-year-old James Earl Ray for positive identification.

Other methods of identifying the body have proved fruitless, he said, because of the advanced state of decomposition.

The body, containing four bullet wounds—with three bullets recovered—was found May 7 by two state forestry workers near Brandonville, approximately 20 miles north of this northeast Pennsylvania community.

A special report showed the decomposition was caused by lime which was placed on the body, Russell said.

The report indicated that if lime was used on the body "interment (was) not less than two weeks nor more than four."

State Police Detective George Durilla of Reading said the estimated time of burial meant that the body could conceivably be that of Ray, since King was slain in Memphis, Tenn., on April 4 and Ray has since disappeared.

"The body could be anybody's but we're checking all the possibilities," Durilla said.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT

NATCHEZ, MISS.

Date: MAY 24, 1968

Edition: DAILY

Author:

Editor: JAMES W. LAMBERT

Title: JAMES EARL RAY

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586sf1

Submitting Office: JACKSON

☐ Being Investigated

157-9586-sf1-59

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| MAY 27 1968   |         |
| FBI - JACKSON |         |

Pudister

## DREW PEARSON SAYS:

# FBI Has Amazing Array Of Evidence Re King's Assassin

WASHINGTON — The FBI's failure to apprehend the assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King has led to reports that J. Edgar Hoover is not interested in catching the murderer. The reports are based partly on the fact that Hoover and King were not on good terms. Hoover having publicly branded King as "the most notorious liar in the world."

We have checked into the operations of the FBI in this respect and are convinced that it is conducting perhaps the most painstaking, exhaustive manhunt ever before undertaken in the United States. Its G-Men have checked every bar ever patronized by James Earl Ray, every flophouse he ever stopped at, every cantina in Mexico he ever visited. It has collected an amazing array of evidence, all linking Ray with the murder.

That he has not been found may be due, first, to the possibility that he himself was murdered by those who hired him to kill King; or, second, that he is hiding in some remote Mexican village.

If he has money—and apparently he had—Ray might be able to live in a distant part of Mexico indefinitely. The Mexico City Police are efficient and cooperative, but police in the remote areas are not. In some villages few Mexicans can read or write, and radio news of the outside world does not penetrate.

### DETECTIVE STORY CRIMINAL

What the FBI has established about King's assassin was that he was a professional killer who had studied the suspense writing of Ian Fleming and Ayn Rand. His pseudonym, Eric Starvo Galt, for instance, was taken from both authors.

Yet, while a student of crime prices were cheap. Once he he was also a bungler. For he posed in sun glasses for a picture left behind the murder rifle with his Mexican prostitute with his fingerprints on it and, tucked in the hippie newspaper spread which contained that he would like to meet "a strands of his hair. He also left passionate married woman." behind a blue zipper bag containing a brush with hair Club for the names and addresses of five girls. He also paid \$1 to the Swinger's matching those on the bed-spread.

All the evidence we have been able to gather points to the probability that Ray was hired to kill Dr. King. He broke out of the Missouri State Penitentiary on April 23, 1967, after boasting to fellow prisoners that he intended to make a big "score" on the outside. He remarked to one inmate that he might try to collect a rumored \$1 million bounty that supposedly had been offered by a "businessmen's group" for the death of Dr. King.

Four months later, on Aug. 30, 1967, he opened a safe deposit box in the Birmingham Trust National Bank and suddenly began passing out crisp \$20 bills like a big spender. He paid \$499 for dancing instruction, then quit after only a few lessons. He spent \$395 for mail-order photographic equipment that he didn't know how to operate.

He shelled out money for a bartending course, but showed no interest in working behind any bar. He also took a course in lock-picking from a correspondence school in Michigan. His white Mustang cost \$1,995, which he paid in cash. He drove it from Mexico to Montreal,

from Los Angeles to New Orleans.

Occasionally he slipped \$20 to bar girls and prostitutes. In Mexico he lived with a prostitute in small towns like Jalisco and Puerto Vallarta, where

All told, Ray spent an estimated \$10,000 in seven months. Yet he never held a job, and committed no crimes following his escape from the Missouri Penitentiary that the FBI has discovered. Previously he had been involved in a long list of filling station and other robberies. But after his escape he became a loner, in some respects became another Lee Harvey Oswald. Meanwhile, he sought to establish a new identity as Eric Starvo Galt.

### CAREFUL PLANS

It seems likely that Ray planned the murder of Dr. King for several months. He finally purchased the Remington rifle in Birmingham on March 30, then moved to a boarding house in Atlanta. In his room, agents found a map of Atlanta with four locations circled.

They were Dr. King's residence, his headquarters at the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Ray's boarding house and the spot where he abandoned his Mustang after the murder. In the middle of the map was also a clear thumbprint from Ray's right hand.

Evidently, Ray changed his mind about waylaying King in Atlanta and followed him to Memphis instead. After all the elaborate planning and the careful creation of a new identity, Ray left behind in Memphis the murder rifle, binoculars and a bag full of toilet articles.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 15

THE CLARION LEDGER

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: MAY 16, 1968

Edition: HOME

Author: DREW PEARSON

Editor: T.M. HEDERMAN, JR.

Title: JAMES EARL RAY

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586SF1

Submitting Office: JACKSON

☐ Being Investigated

157-9586-SF1-58

SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED

MAY 17 1968

FBI - JACKSON

#4

If white extremists put up the blood money it was probably not the Ku Klux Klan or the Minute Men, for they are an impatient lot who would not have waited for several months for Ray to get results.

Black extremists have also not been ruled out. They might have sought to get rid of King in order to remove the prophet of nonviolence.

Note: Ray was the product of a broken home. He was the eldest of eight children. His father deserted Ray's mother, and various people adopted the children. When the FBI approached the father, they discovered that the elder Ray had not seen his son for 17 years. "I would be the last one he would come to for help," the father said.



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## Mystery On Suspect Continues

WASHINGTON (AP) — FBI officials are quietly trying to play down contradictory descriptions of the appearance and habits of James Earl Ray, alias Eric Starvo Galt, the elusive escaped convict charged with the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The discrepancies have fueled speculation that perhaps Ray and Galt actually are two persons, or that two or more persons used the name Galt.

No official statement has been issued to rebut this theory. But at the massive search for King's killer entered its fourth week, FBI sources who had refused to discuss any aspect of the investigation insisted, though not for attribution, that Ray and Galt are the same person.

"We know there's only one person involved here," said one official. "We've got his fingerprints and we know who he is."

This "one person" contention in itself seems to clash with the FBI's formal stance that Galt conspired with "an individual he alleged to be his brother" to violate King's civil rights.

The FBI filed the conspiracy complaint against Galt in Birmingham, Ala., 13 days after King was shot by a sniper in Memphis, Tenn., April 4. Tennessee officials quickly filed a murder charge against Galt.

Two days later, the FBI said

a check of fingerprints showed Ray was the man sought, and he had used Galt as an alias. Ray escaped April 23, 1967, from the Missouri State Penitentiary where he was serving a 20-year sentence for a \$190 supermarket robbery.

The FBI has not amended its conspiracy complaint to name Ray instead of Galt, although Tennessee officials made such a name change in the Memphis murder charge.

Puzzling aspects of the case continue to pop up. The newest involves Ray's, or Galt's, smoking habits.

Atlanta residents said cigarette or cigar ashes were scattered on the carpeted floor of a white 1966 Mustang that FBI agents impounded there a week after King was slain. They also said a cigar butt fell out of the car when agents opened the door. The FBI has said the car was owned by Galt.

In Missouri, it was reported that an FBI bulletin issued last year after Ray's prison escape said Ray "does not smoke."

Reporters showed copies of the FBI-released picture of Galt to the Birmingham witnesses, and to residents of the Memphis rooming house from which the fatal shot was fired. Almost all said the photo didn't resemble the man they saw.

Varying ages have been given for the hunted man.

Memphis residents said the man they saw leave the rooming house appeared to be between 26 and 32. In Atlanta, a housewife who saw a man get out of the white Mustang estimated his age at 25 to 30. The FBI said Galt gave his age as

36. It said ~~Ray is 40~~.

Estimates of the fugitive's height have ranged from 5-feet-8 to 6-feet, his weight from 160 to 175 pounds. His eyes have been described as either blue or hazel, his hair as either brown or sandy.

An FBI official brushed off the varying descriptions, saying "you run into this every time—it's human nature."

"Anyway, this guy is a professional con. He can change his hair line in three minutes with a razor, and ~~he can~~ gain or lose 20 pounds when he wants to."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 11

THE DAILY HERALD

GULFPORT, MISS.

Date: APRIL 26, 1968

Edition: DAILY

Author:

Editor: E.P. WILKES

Title: JAMES EARL RAY

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586

Submitting Office: JACKSON

☐ Being Investigated

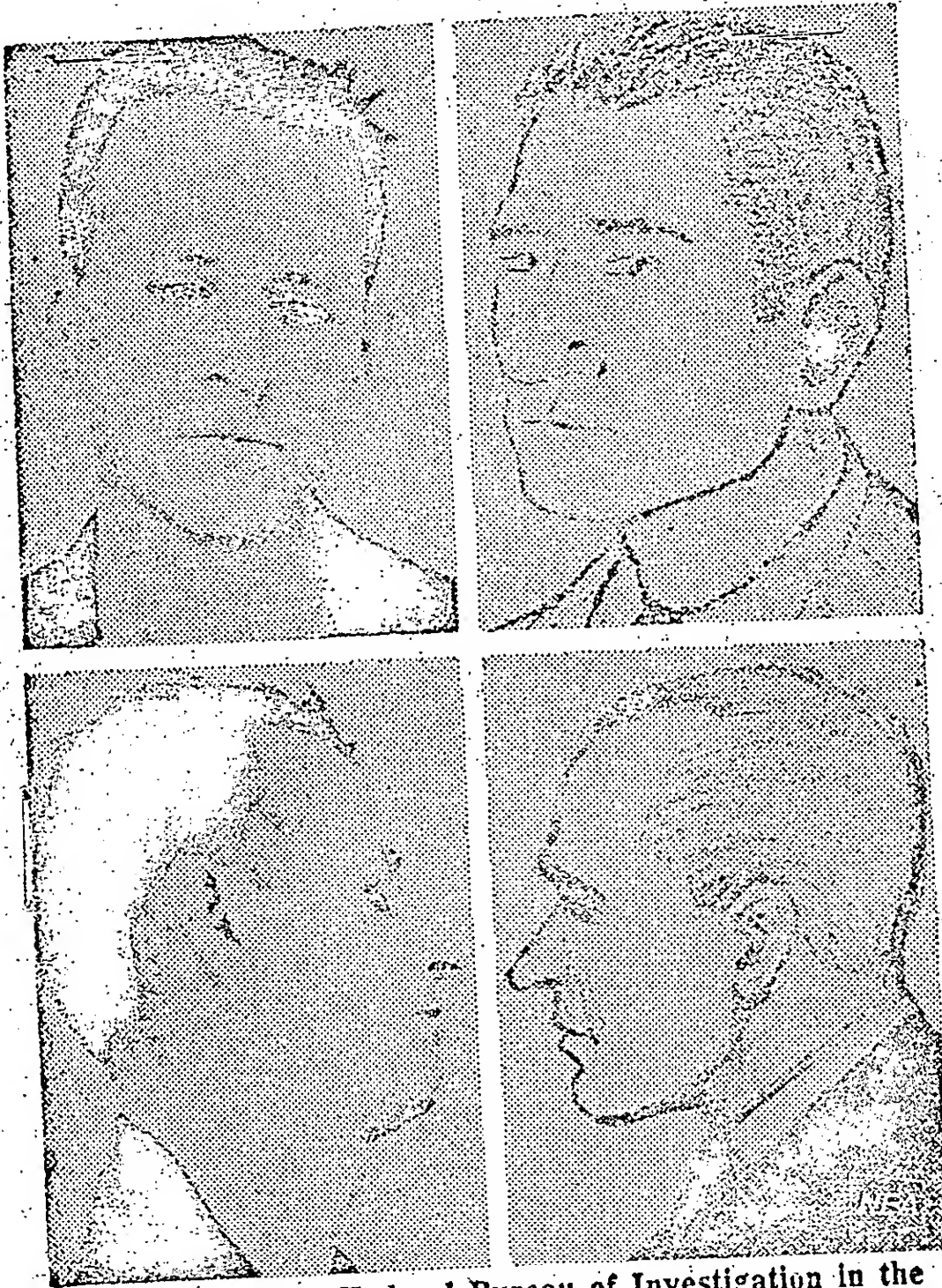
157-9586-SF1-57

ARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED

MAY 15 1968

FBI — JACKSON

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)



WANTED by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is James Earl Ray, alias Eric Starvo Galt. Prison photos of Ray, above left, are shown in comparison with artist sketches made from witnesses' descriptions of a man seen fleeing the house from which the fatal bullet was fired.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 31

THE DAILY HERALD

GULFPORT, MISS.

Date: APRIL 29, 1968

Edition: DAILY

Author:

Editor: E.P. WILKES

Title: JAMES EARL RAY

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586

Submitting Office: JACKSON

☐ Being Investigated

157-9586-SF1-56

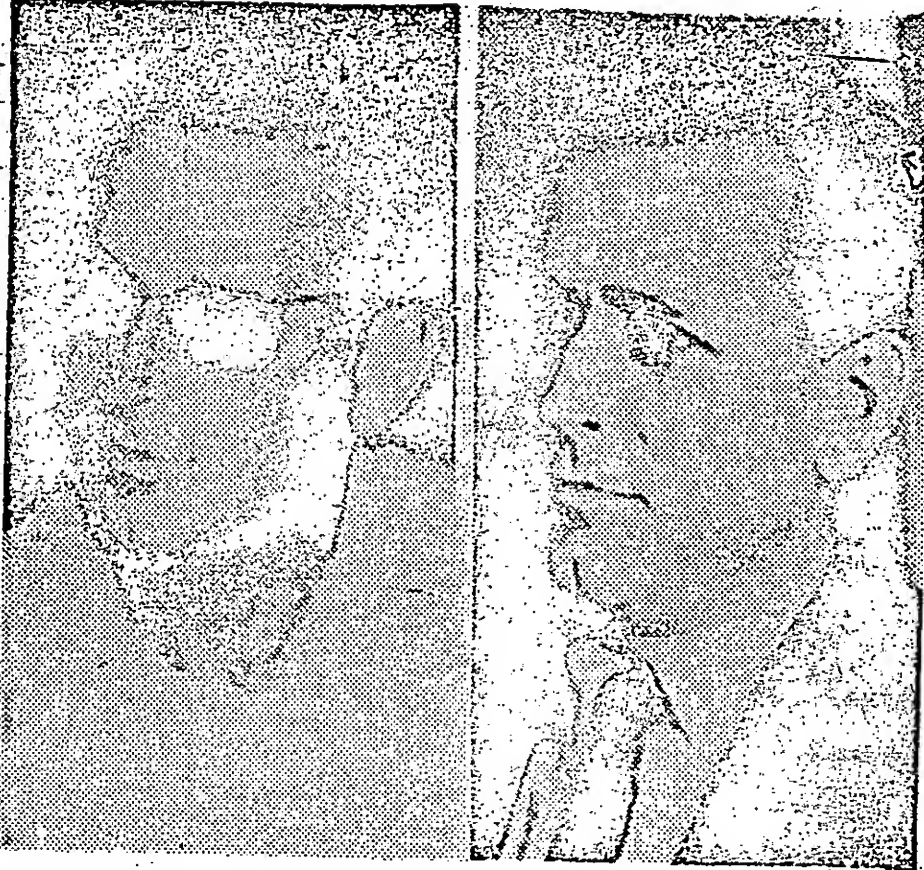
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SERIALIZED FILED

MAY 15 1968

FBI - JACKSON

*orig 41cc  
to Bu*

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)



**RAY STILL SOUGHT**—The Federal Bureau of Investigation released these two photographs in Washington, identified as two additional pictures of James Earl Ray who is being sought in connection with the slaying of Mr. Martin Luther King Jr. The FBI said the picture of Ray wearing dark glasses was taken in Mexico in November, 1967, while the one of Ray in a business suit was made in California during the last part of January or the early part of February, 1968.  
—AP Wirephoto.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 3

THE CLARION LEDGER

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: MAY 10, 1968

Edition: HOME

Author:

Editor: T.M. HEDERMAN, JR.

Title: JAMES EARL RAY

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586sf1

Submitting Office: JACKSON

☐ Being Investigated

157-9586-SF1-55

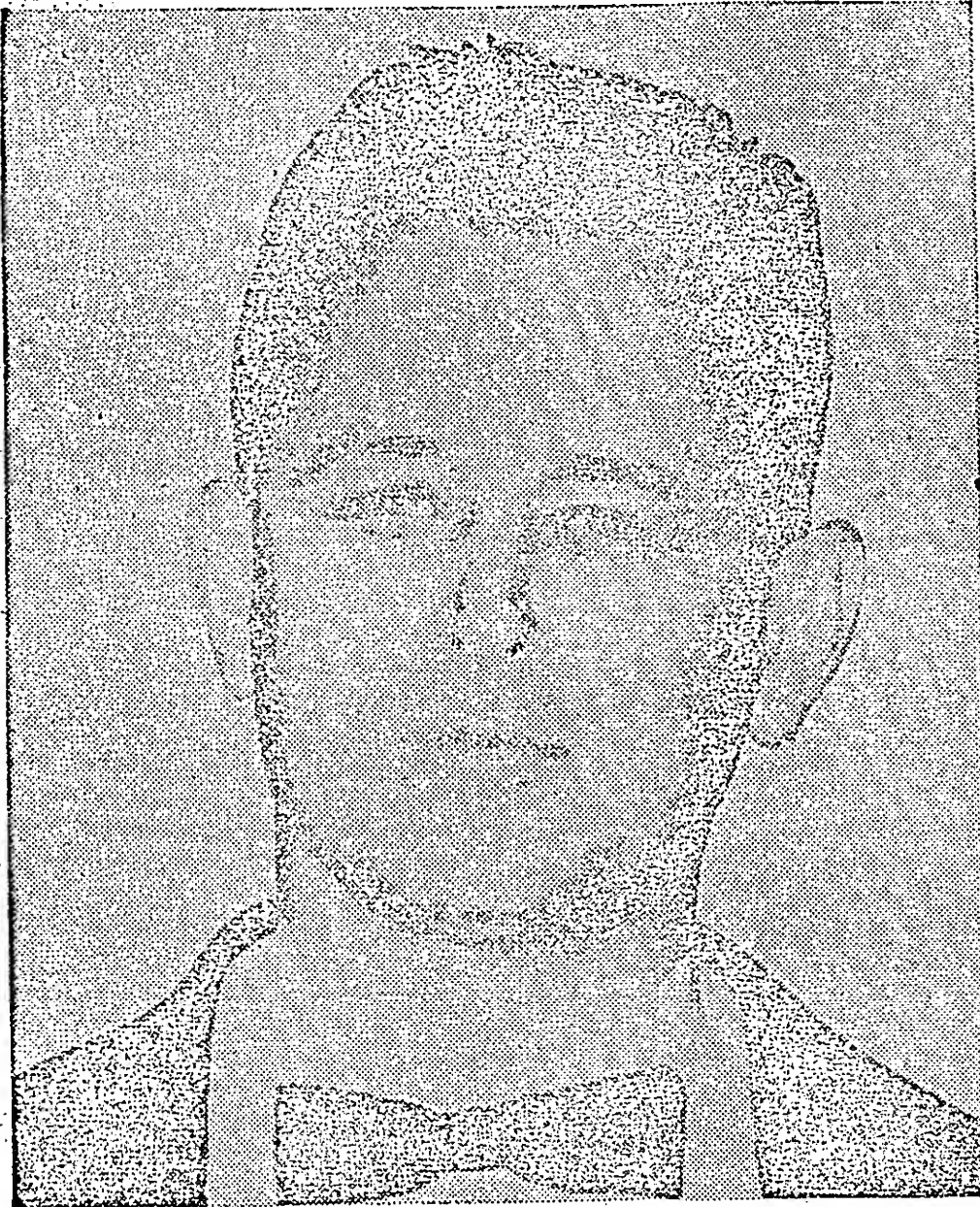
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| SERIALIZED    | FILED   |
| MAY 10 1968   |         |
| FBI - JACKSON |         |
| #4            |         |

*orig 7/100 to Bu*



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## WANTED BY THE FBI



JAMES EARL RAY, also known as Eric Starvo Galt, Harvey Lowmyer, John Willard, James McBride, James Walton, W. C. Herron and James O'Conner.

James Earl Ray, a Missouri prison escapee, sought under the alias Eric Starvo Galt in connection with the gunshot slaying of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., is one of the FBI's "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives." FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover ordered the special addition of Ray to the "Top Ten" list to insure widespread dissemination of Ray's photograph and description to speed his location.

Ray has been intensively sought since the murder of Dr. King on April 4, 1968, as he stood on the balcony of a Memphis, Tennessee, motel. An exhaustive FBI fingerprint search, comparing latent fingerprints uncovered in the Dr. King case against fingerprints of over 53,000 persons on whom wanted notices were posted, determined that Galt and Ray are identical.

A Federal warrant, issued at Birmingham, Alabama, on April 17, 1968, charges Ray, under the alias of Galt, with conspiring to interfere with a Constitutional Right of a citizen. Ray, who escaped on April 23, 1967, from the Missouri State Penitentiary, is also sought for unlawful flight to avoid confinement for robbery. His long criminal record also includes convictions for burglary and forging U.S. Postal Money Orders.

A white American, born in Alton, Illinois, on March 10, 1928, Ray is 5'10" tall, weighs 163 to 174 pounds, has blue eyes and short brown hair. He has a nervous habit of tugging at an ear lobe and his left ear protrudes noticeably. Known as a "loner" and "drifter," Ray has worked as a baker, laborer and color matcher. He has taken dancing lessons and completed a course at a school of bartending.

Consider Ray armed and extremely dangerous. Report any information concerning him to the nearest FBI office.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 12

THE NATCHEZ  
DEMOCRAT

NATCHEZ, MISS.

Date: MAY 9, 1968

Edition: DAILY

Author:

Editor: JAMES W. LAMBERT

Title: JAMES EARL RAY

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586sf1

Submitting Office: JACKSON

☐ Being Investigated

SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED

MAY 10 1968

FBI - JACKSON



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## New Photos Of James Earl Ray Released

WASHINGTON (AP) — The FBI issued today two more photographs of James Earl Ray, who is being sought in connection with the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.,

An FBI spokesman said one of the latest photos is "considered to be the best possible likeness of Ray."

So far the FBI now has issued five photos of Ray.

The one the FBI considers the best was taken in late January or early February of this year somewhere in California. It shows Ray wearing a dark checked jacket, striped tie and button-down collar shirt. There is a curtain directly in back of him and a lamp nearby.

The FBI would not say where it obtained the picture, or where precisely it was taken, or by whom.

The other new photo, which the FBI said was taken last November at an undisclosed location in Mexico, shows Ray wearing dark glasses and a light colored shirt open at the collar.

The California photo appears to have been taken without the use of flash, and with side lighting. The Mexico photo appears to have been made with the use of a flash camera.

The two new photos confirm what FBI descriptions say—that his weight has been known to vary widely. The Mexican picture discloses a man with a thin

face and pointed chin, much as he appeared in 1960 photos.

But the picture taken in California shows him edging up to pudginess, with a clear cleft in his chin.

Other photos issued earlier by the FBI included one of him taken at a Los Angeles bartending school.

The original showed his eyes closed. At first an FBI artist drew in some open eyes, but later eyes from another photograph were imposed photographically. The bartending photo was taken in early March of this year when he graduated from the school in Los Angeles.

The remaining pair of photos were taken in 1960 in connection with his conviction for armed robbery. He was received at the state penitentiary in Jefferson City, Mo., March 17, 1960 to serve 20 years. He escaped April 23, 1967.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

THE CLARION LEDGER

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: MAY 7, 1968

Edition: HOME

Author:

Editor: T.M. HEDERMAN, JR.

Title: JAMES EARL RAY

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586sf1

Submitting Office: JACKSON

☐ Being Investigated

157-9586-SF1-53

SEARCHED INDEXED

SERIALIZED FILED

MAY 8 1968

FBI — JACKSON

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## James Earl Ray Model Prisoner At Leavenworth

WASHINGTON (AP) — Prison records show James Earl Ray, charged with murdering Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was considered a model prisoner while in the federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kan.

By the time Ray was released on April 5, 1958, he had earned—in addition to time off for good behavior—an extra 45 days early release for meritorious conduct.

He served two years and nine months of a three-year, nine-month sentence imposed by a Kansas City federal court for forging postal money orders.

Nothing could be found to show how Ray earned the extra 45 days early release—and Bureau of prisons officials refused to make his record public. But other sources did.

In contrast to his Leavenworth record, Ray currently is an escapee from the Missouri State Penitentiary and received a general discharge rather than an honorable discharge from the Army in 1948 because of ineptness and lack of adaptability, the FBI has reported. While in the Army he served three months at hard labor for being drunk and resisting arrest, the FBI said.

Records also show:

—Ray signed a parole waiver although he would have been eligible for parole 18 months before his release.

—Leavenworth psychiatrists apparently had little interest in Ray. Aside from routine examinations when he was imprisoned there July 7, 1955, there is no indication he was given—or needed—psychiatric help. His attitude was described as good.

Although released in April 1958, Ray was subject to parole supervision until Oct. 2, 1958.

Ray worked for a time in the Leavenworth bakery, fire department, and paint shop.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 5

THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT

NATCHEZ, MISS.

Date: MAY 3, 1968

Edition: DAILY

Author:

Editor: JAMES LAMBERT

Title: JAMES EARL RAY

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586sf1

Submitting Office: JACKSON

☐ Being Investigated

157-9586-SF1-52

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| SEARCHED      | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED    | FILED   |
| MAY 7 1968    |         |
| FBI - JACKSON |         |

# WANTED BY THE FBI



JAMES EARL RAY, also known as Eric Starvo Galt, Harvey Lowmyer, John Willard, James McBride, James Walton, W. C. Herron and James O'Conner.

James Earl Ray, a Missouri prison escapee, sought under the alias Eric Starvo Galt in connection with the gunshot slaying of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., is one of the FBI's "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives." FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover ordered the special addition of Ray to the "Top Ten" list to insure widespread dissemination of Ray's photograph and description to speed his location.

Ray has been intensively sought since the murder of Dr. King on April 4, 1968, as he stood on the balcony of a Memphis, Tennessee, motel. An exhaustive FBI fingerprint search, comparing latent fingerprints uncovered in the Dr. King case against fingerprints of over 53,000 persons on whom wanted notices were posted, determined that Galt and Ray are identical.

A Federal warrant, issued at Birmingham, Alabama, on April 17, 1968, charges Ray, under the alias of Galt, with conspiring to interfere with a Constitutional Right of a citizen. Ray, who escaped on April 23, 1967, from the Missouri State Penitentiary, is also sought for unlawful flight to avoid confinement for robbery. His long criminal record also includes convictions for burglary and forging U.S. Postal Money Orders.

A white American, born in Alton, Illinois, on March 10, 1928, Ray is 5'10" tall, weighs 163 to 174 pounds, has blue eyes and short brown hair. He has a nervous habit of tugging at an ear lobe and his left ear protrudes noticeably. Known as a "loner" and "drifter," Ray has worked as a baker, laborer and color matcher. He has taken dancing lessons and completed a course at a school of bartending.

Consider Ray armed and extremely dangerous. Report any information concerning him to the nearest FBI office.

157-9586-SF1-50

SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED  
MAY 7 1968  
FBI-JACKSON



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)



## James Earl Ray FBI Most Wanted

James Earl Ray, a Missouri prison escapee who has been sought under the alias Eric Starvo Galt in connection with the gunshot slaying of Civil rights leader, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., has been added to the FBI's list of "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives."

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover ordered the special addition of Ray to the "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives" list, which already contains ten fugitives, to insure the widest possible dissemination of Ray's photograph and description to help effect his earliest possible location.

Ray has been the subject of a massive and intensive search since the brutal gunshot slaying of Dr. King on April 4, 1968, as he stood on the balcony of a Memphis, Tennessee, motel. One rifle bullet, believed fired from the window of a nearby rooming house, felled the victim.

An exhaustive FBI fingerprint search, comparing latent fingerprints uncovered in the Dr. King case against fingerprints of over 53,000 persons on whom wanted notices have been posted in the FBI's Identification Division, succeeded in determining that Galt and Ray are identical.

A Federal warrant, issued at Birmingham, Alabama, on April 17, 1968, charges Ray, under the alias Eric Starvo Galt, with conspiring to interfere with a Constitutional Right of a United States citizen. Ray is also sought for unlawful interstate flight to avoid confinement after conviction for armed robbery, based on a Federal warrant issued on July 2, 1967, at Jefferson City, Missouri. He had been confined at the Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri, in March, 1960, with a 20-year sentence following conviction for armed robbery and operating a motor vehicle without permission of the owner. In September, 1966, while serving the sentence, he was confined for a time in the maximum security ward at the State Hospital, Fulton, Missouri. He was reported missing from the Missouri State Penitentiary since April 23, 1967.

Ray, who has an arrest record dating back to 1949 and has been convicted of burglary, armed robbery and forging United States Postal Money Orders, has also been confined in the Los Angeles County Jail, the Joliet and Pontiac, Illinois, State Prisons and the United States Penitentiary, at Leavenworth, Kansas.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 12

THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT

NATCHEZ, MISS.

Date: APRIL 30, 1968  
Edition: DAILY  
Author:  
Editor: JAMES W. LAMBER  
Title: JAMES EARL RAY

Character:  
or  
Classification: 157-9586sfl  
Submitting Office: JACKSON

☐ Being Investigated

157-9586-571-49

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| SERIALIZED    | FILED   |
| MAY 2 1968    |         |
| FBI - JACKSON |         |



~~He~~ served in the army between February, 1946 and December 1948, received a three-month sentence at hard labor for being drunk and breaking arrest and was given a General Discharge due to ineptness and lack of adability for military service.

Ray is a 40 - year - old white male, reportedly born in Illinois, on March 10, 1928. He is approximately 5'10" tall, and weighs from 163 to 174 pounds, has blue eyes and brown hair which he has worn cut short. He has a small scar on the center of his forehead and a scar on the palm of his right hand. He has been described as having a straight, narrow nose and straight and even teeth and to have a nervous habit of occasionally tugging at his ear lobe. His left ear protrudes noticeably.

Acquaintances describe him as a "loner" and "drifter", whose language and dictation reflect a "rural" quality and indicate he has had limited education.

He is reportedly a fan of western and country music, drinks vodka and beer, dresses neatly and claims past employment as a merchant seaman and cook on Mississippi River vessels. He is known to have worked as a baker, laborer and color matcher.

He is known as an avid dancer who has taken dancing lessons. he also completed a course at a school of bartending in the Los Angeles area early in 1968.

Ray should be considered to be armed and extremely dangerous. Anyone with information concerning this fugitive is requested to immediately contact the nearest office of the FBI, the telephone number of which may be found on the first page of local telephone directories.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

/ DREW PEARSON SAYS

## James Earl Ray Got Start Down Crime Road As Juvenile Delinquent

WASHINGTON — If you go back far enough into the life of James Earl Ray, wanted for the assassination of Martin Luther King, you will find the reason which started him on the road to crime was what starts most crime in the United States — juvenile delinquency.

When Ray was a boy going to school at Ewing, Mo., in the 9th grade, he stole the school's hot-lunch money, and tried to blame it on a classmate, Carlyle Washburn.

That was Ray's first brush with the law. From this first escapade he went from bad to worse. Every time he got into jail it was for a longer term for a worse crime until he needed with the murder which brought near civil war to the key cities of America and forced the calling out of 21,000 troops.

This week the top leaders of Washington are attending a dinner to raise money for big brothers, which throughout the United States attempts to guide fatherless boys. There are 20,000 fatherless boys in and around the nation's capital, thousands more in the rest of the nation. All of them are basically good boys, and with

guidance none are likely to go wrong. Without guidance some of them will.

All the specialists report that the family plays the most important part in building a child. He can be raised in the slums, in abject poverty, even without much education, and if he has a strong father and mother he will not only survive but become a constructive citizen.

Some of the nation's leaders of today have emerged from the east side of New York, where strong Jewish families from eastern Europe made sure that their children were brought up right.

The American system unfortunately destroyed the Negro father. There were no Negro fathers in slave days, and the welfare system of today has decreed there must not be a man in the home. This is the greatest cause of juvenile crime in the major cities and the major challenge of America.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 12

THE CLARION LEDGER

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: MAY 1, 1968

Edition: HOME

Author: DREW PEARSON

Editor: T.M. HEDERMAN, JR.

Title: MURKIN

157-8586-SF1-48

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586sf

Submitting Office: JACKSON

☐ Being Investigated

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to Bu*

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| MAY 1 1968    |         |
| FBI - JACKSON |         |

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## Assassination Of King Decried At Millsaps

Millsaps College students have pledged themselves to a course of positive action "to achieve freedom of justice for all" in a resolution decrying the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The resolution was adopted by the Students Senate official governing body of the student community at Millsaps. Soon after the action was taken, the Millsaps faculty voted to support the student senate in its resolution.

Text of the resolution follows: "The violent death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and others dedicated to non-violence, profoundly challenges all who believe in human brotherhood. Through our activity and inactivity, whether conscious or unconscious, we share in the responsibility for Dr. King's death. For too long we have allowed racism and bigotry; we have denied many of the just-field goals of Dr. King and many other leaders; we have ignored opportunities for friendship and understanding with our brothers.

"We, the members of the Millsaps Student Senate, commit ourselves to a new course of positive action: to care for the freedom of all men; to live without racial prejudice; to act toward ending the influence of hatred in our society. We pledge sincerity in not only presenting this statement but in going forth to achieve the great task of freedom and justice for all."

Earlier a memorial service for the slain civil rights leader was held on the Millsaps campus under the sponsorship of the Methodist Student Movement.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 2

JACKSON DAILY NEWS

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: 4/24/68

Edition: FINAL

Author:

Editor: JAMES M. WARD

Title: ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586 SF1  
Submitting Office: JACKSON

☐ Being Investigated

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| SERIALIZED    | FILED   |
| APR 25 1968   |         |
| FBI - JACKSON |         |

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## Intensify Search For Galt

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — The nation's police agencies intensified a nationwide search today for Eric Starvo Galt, the elusive fugitive sought in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

They were aided by thousands of wanted posters, just gaining wide distribution two days after the FBI publicly identified Galt, 36, as the man it had sought secretly since a week after the April 4 slaying.

The FBI refused comment on queries about whether it believes Galt is the man's real name or was simply a cover built painstakingly over a number of months by the beer-drinking lover of hillbilly music.

Two aliases—John Willard and Harvey Lowmyer—were listed on the federal conspiracy warrant issued against Galt in Birmingham, Ala., Wednesday afternoon and the first degree murder warrant issued by the state against him here Wednesday night.

"John Willard" was the name used by the man who checked into a Main Street rooming house three hours before King was shot as he stood on the balcony of a motel here. There has been no reference to the second alias.

The federal agency denied a report that it had taken into custody the man it said Galt described as his brother and that the brother was aiding in the search. The federal warrant, issued Wednesday, claimed that Galt and the brother entered into a conspiracy March 29 to violate King's civil rights.

The FBI covered many specific details about Galt's life over the past several years in its release including the fact that he is an avid dancer, has "rural speech," apparently lacks education and has a "nervous habit of pulling at an ear lobe with his left hand."

But except for his age, the FBI's statement was void of vital statistics, including Galt's birthplace, or of any details of his movement prior to 1964.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 2

BILXOI GULFPORT  
DAILY HERALD

GULFPORT, MISS.

Date: 4/19/68

Edition:

Author:

Editor: E. P. WILKES

Title: ASSASSINATION OF  
MARTIN LUTHER KING

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586 SF1  
Submitting Office: JACKSON

☐ Being Investigated

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| SERIALIZED <i>do</i> | FILED <i>do</i>   |
| APR 25 1968          |                   |
| FBI — JACKSON        |                   |

157-9586-241-46



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Ray Talked About Bounty

DALTON, Ga. (AP) — A convicted murderer who was in prison with the mysterious James Earl Ray, now hunted in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., said Tuesday he heard Ray say he would be willing to try to collect \$1 million for killing the civil rights leader.

Raymond Curtis, 40, the same age as Ray, is serving a life sentence at Whitfield County jail. Curtis said he and Ray were prisoners at the Missouri State Penitentiary when John F. Kennedy was assassinated Nov. 22, 1963, in Dallas, Tex.

"Another boy said, 'Well, there's a million-dollar bounty to get King.' King was running his mouth pretty good then. Ray said, 'If there is a million-dollar bounty on King, I believe I can collect it,'" Curtis said in an interview.

Curtis said he met Ray in 1955 when both were prisoners in Jackson County jail at Kansas City, Mo. He said they shared a cell for seven months.

Then, Curtis said, Ray was transferred to the Leavenworth federal prison to serve a term for forging postal money orders. Curtis said that two weeks later he also was sent to Leavenworth.

## ADJOINING CELLS

Curtis said he and Ray were in the same 281-cell building at Leavenworth and at one point were in adjoining cells.

He said after about six months he was transferred to the Atlanta prison and did not see Ray again until late 1961 or early 1962, when Curtis went to the Missouri State Penitentiary on a 10-year armed robbery sentence.

Ray was there, Curtis said, serving a 20-year armed robbery sentence. Prison records confirm that Curtis and Ray were inmates at the same time.

The two saw each other "almost daily" Curtis said.

It was in the prison yard, Curtis said, that he and Ray saw

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

THE CLARION LEDGER

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: 4/24/68

Edition: HOME

Author:

Editor: T.M. HEDERMAN JR.

Title: ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586 SF1

Submitting Office: JACKSON

☐ Being Investigated

157-9586-SF1-45  
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SERIALIZED FILED

APR 24 1968

FBI - JACKSON

television news reports of Kennedy's assassination. A few days later, he said, a new prisoner came in and said that a \$1 million bounty had been put on King by a "K-K businessman's association."

Curtis said Ray did not associate freely with other inmates. "You could pick him out of a yard. He would be off to himself walking and his mind would be somewhere else."

#### PLANNED

"The only thing he would make a long conversation out of was when he was planning something and you were a part of it," Curtis said. "Anything he did was thoroughly planned. He never went off half-cocked."

Curtis said he heard Ray mention a King bounty several times. At one point, Curtis said, Ray referred to the Kennedy assassination by saying, "Boy, probably somebody made a nice little penny off of that. I sure wish it was me."

Curtis, who was born in Dalton, said Ray had a soft southern Illinois accent, not a southern drawl.

#### FBI QUESTIONS

Curtis, who was convicted in

January 1967, of a robbery murder, is awaiting a decision on a new trial motion. FBI agents questioned Curtis Sunday and Monday.

To his knowledge, Curtis said, only one person visited Ray during their prison time together.

Curtis talked to reporters from his individual 4- by 10-foot cell at the Whitfield County jail. A bare light bulb illuminated the cell. He wore a torn white T-shirt, and raspberry colored pajama trousers.

Curtis said Ray made the statements about King to Curtis personally and not in a group.

The FBI said the man they are hunting has a liking for beer and vodka and water. "He liked beer, I know that, because he talked about it," Curtis said.

Curtis said Ray talked a great deal in prison about New Zealand, Brazil and Argentina and Curtis speculated that he would have left the United States for one of those countries within hours after the slaying if he were responsible.

"If you talk to him 15 minutes you'd like him," Curtis said. "He was a likeable sort of person. But if this was a plot to assassinate King, Ray would go to his grave with the secret."

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# James Earl Ray; How To Know Him

## Prison Escapee Has Many Faces

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

James Earl Ray, alias Eric Starve Galt, who is being sought in the killing of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., is a man described as a loner. Yet he is known as an avid dancer.

He has been convicted of armed robbery and automobile theft, but less than a year ago he applied for and received a legal license to drive a newly-purchased white Mustang.

Ray has lived as far west as California, as far south as New Orleans—and in Memphis Tenn., where on April 4, 1968, King was assassinated.

Here is the most current information available on Ray:

Description: Height, 5 feet 10; weight, 163 to 174 pounds. Brown hair. Blue eyes. A small scar on his forehead and right palm. His left ear protrudes further from his head than his right ear does. White male about 40.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

JACKSON DAILY NEWS

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: 4/20/68

Edition: FINAL

Author:

Editor: JAMES M. WARD

Title: ASSASSINATION OF  
MARTIN LUTHER KING

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586 SF1

Submitting Office: JACKSON

☐ Being Investigated

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| FBI — JACKSON        |                   |

Relatives: Born in Alton, Ill., March 10, 1928, son of a laborer of the same name. Hospital records in Fulton, Mo., indicate his parents are deceased but prison records list his mother as Mrs. Lucille Ryan of 1913 Hickory St., St. Louis. A brother, Jerry, reportedly has an address of Box 22, Wheeling, Ill.

Aliases: Two aliases listed on FBI warrant—John Willard and Harvey Lowmyer. Other names used are James McBride, James Walton, W. C. Herron and James O'Connor.

Education: High school drop-out in 10th grade. Graduate of International School of Bartending in Hollywood, Calif., on March 2, 1968. Took dancing lessons in New Orleans in 1934 and 1965, in Birmingham during September and October 1967, and in Long Beach, Calif., from December 1967 to February 1968.

Military record: Served as an enlisted man in the U.S. Army from February 1946 to December 1948 when he was given a general discharge for ineptness and lack of adaptability. While in the Army he received a three-month sentence at hard labor for being drunk and "breaking" arrest.

Criminal record: In 1949 served eight months in county jail in Los Angeles on a burglary charge. In 1952 convicted in Chicago of armed robbery and served two years in Joliet and Pontiac, Ill., state prisons. In 1955 convicted of forging U.S. postal money orders in Missouri and confined to Ft. Leavenworth, Kan., penitentiary until 1958. In 1960 sent to the Missouri State Penitentiary for a 20-year sentence for armed robbery and car theft in St. Louis and, on April 23, 1967, escaped.

Occupation: Has worked as a baker, laborer and color matcher. On a driver's license application he put "merchant seaman, unemployed." Claimed to have been a cook on a Mississippi riverboat and to have worked in shipyards.

Mental history: Sent for men-



**JAMES EARL RAY**

tal observation in connection with a charge of attempted escape from Missouri State Penitentiary. Hospital officials found "no mental disease or defect within the law."

Pastimes: Beer and vodka drinker. Fond of hillbilly and Western music. Avid dancer.

Characteristics: Rural speech. Nervous habit of pulling at an ear lobe with left hand. Described as quiet, a loner, and a neat dresser.

Last known address: 2 Highland, a boarding house, in Birmingham.



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

**KING SLAY SUSPECT****Ray Added  
To FBI List**

WASHINGTON (AP) — What may be the nation's most intensive manhunt gained fresh pressure Saturday when the FBI placed on its "most wanted" list a fugitive convict accused of the murder of Martin Luther King.

James Earl Ray, a 40-year-old habitual criminal, is being hunted by police from border to border and beyond for the April 4 sniper slaying in Memphis, Tenn., of the Negro civil rights leader from Atlanta.

The FBI always has limited its list of most wanted criminals to 10 names but Saturday it added an 11th Ray, a white loner known also by the name of Eric Starvo Galt has six other aliases.

In addition to a state first-degree murder warrant issued in Memphis, Ray is wanted on federal charges of conspiracy to deny Dr. King his civil rights and of flight to escape confinement. The latter traces to his April 1967 escape from Missouri prison at Jefferson City where he was starting his eighth year on a 20-year sentence for armed robbery.

In announcing the unprecedented step of adding an 11th name to the "10 most wanted" list, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover announced it was done "to insure the widest possible dissemination of Ray's photograph and description to help effect his earliest possible location."

On Thursday, when Ray still was being sought under the name of Galt, the FBI filled a vacancy on the list with another name. When asked why Galt wasn't the nominee at that time a spokesman explained the main purpose of the listings is "to attract publicity for a guy you're looking for—and in this case there's been plenty of publicity."

But Hoover obviously decided more public attention was in order.

As usual, the FBI is appealing to the public for help in spotting its man and—as usual—gives implied warning against any effort by a plain citizen to apprehend the criminal unaided.

The official language puts it this way:

"Ray should be considered armed and extremely dangerous. Anyone with information concerning this fugitive is requested to immediately contact the nearest office of the FBI, the telephone number of which may be found on the first page of local telephone directories."

Reportedly a native of Illinois, Ray is described as about 5 feet, 10 inches tall, weighing from 163 to 174 pounds. He has blue eyes and brown hair usually worn short. Forehead and right palm bear small scars. His nose is narrow and straight, teeth even. And he has a noticeably protruding left ear, the lobe of which he reportedly tugs at when nervous.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

THE CLARION LEDGER

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: 4/21/68

Edition: HOME

Author:

Editor: T.M. HEDERMAN JR.

Title: ASSASSINATION OF  
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Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586 SF1

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| SERIALIZED <i>ll</i> | FILED <i>ll</i>   |
| APR 23 1968          |                   |
| FBI — JACKSON        |                   |

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# 'A Lot Of Discrepancies'

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — A ranking Memphis police officer acknowledges there are "a whole lot of discrepancies" in official descriptions of the man sought as the sniper slayer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Asst. Chief Bill Price referred to statements that James Earl Ray, 40, an escaped Missouri convict, and Eric Starvo Galt, first sought for King's April 4 assassination in Memphis, are the same person.

"You don't know what to look for," Price said Sunday as officers here and elsewhere continued their investigation of the slaying. The nationwide manhunt continues.

The FBI issued a conspiracy warrant Wednesday for Galt, then updated their case Friday by saying a fingerprint comparison showed Galt was really Ray.

The naming of Ray in the case caused confusion, primarily because earlier official statements indicate that Galt and Ray were in different places at the same time.

When Galt was charged as a conspirator in King's death by rifle bullet, the FBI said the man had taken dancing lessons in New Orleans in 1964-65. The FBI said later the earlier description should have said Galt

reportedly took dancing lessons rather than stating it flatly.

During that time, Ray was in the Missouri State Prison at Jefferson City, serving a 20-year sentence for a 1959 supermarket robbery.

The age of the man also was in conflict.

Witnesses who saw a man in a Memphis rooming house from where the fatal bullet was fired estimated his age as in the late 20s. The FBI, in issuing its warrant for Galt, said he had given

his birthdate July 20, 1931. That would make him 36. The FBI said Friday Ray is 40.

The personalities of the two men are sometimes at odds. A prison pal described Ray as virtually a nondrinker. The FBI describes Galt as a fancier of beer and vodka.

There were other differences: Galt: neat appearance. Ray: careless appearance.

Galt: Southern accent. Ray: born in Alton, Ill. No Southern accent.

Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark, who came to Memphis after King was slain, at first ruled out a conspiracy, but then the FBI issued its warrant for Galt on a conspiracy charge.

Police here have their own investigation of the slaying under way, and officials say detectives are working hard on the case.

One theory within the Memphis department is that Eric Starvo Galt is a myth, painstakingly created by the conspirators as a smoke screen.

"Somebody has muddled the waters," Price said.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

JACKSON DAILY NEWS

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: 4/22/68

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Editor: JAMES M. WARD

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| APR 23 1968   |         |
| FBI — JACKSON |         |

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Galt-Ray Description Contradictions Seen

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—FBI agents have been given a new identification for the man they seek in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., but the new identification seems to have muddled even more the mystery of who fired the single shot that killed King here the night of April 4.

The FBI had issued a conspiracy warrant last Wednesday for Eric Starvo Galt. Two days later the agency said a comparison of fingerprints found in the King investigation revealed that Galt in reality was James Earl Ray,

a 40-year-old escapee from a Missouri prison.

A murder warrant issued here in Galt's name subsequently was amended to carry the name of Ray.

## NEW PUZZLE

The second identity was only the latest in a series of puzzles which have surrounded the few known facts of the investigation.

Witnesses who said they saw the alleged assassin the the flop-house from which the fatal bullet was fired said he appeared to be between 26 and 32 years of age. The FBI's Wednesday an-

nouncement said Galt had given his birth date as July 20, 1931—which would make him 36. Friday the FBI said Ray was 40.

The FBI also said Galt was said to be an avid dancer and took dancing lessons in New Orleans in 1964 and 1965, in Birmingham during September and October 1967 and in Long Beach, Calif., from December 1967 to February 1968.

But during the time Galt allegedly took dancing lessons in New Orleans, Ray was serving part of a 20-year term for armed robbery in the Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City.

At the time Galt was attending a bartending school in California, a duplicate Alabama driver's license was mailed to him at a rooming house in Birmingham.

## SOUTHERN DRAWL

The woman who runs the flop-house here said the man to whom she rented a room just three hours before King was slain had a Southern drawl. The FBI said Galt liked country and Western music and drank beer and vodka.

In Jefferson City, an inmate of the Missouri prison, who said he "ran around" with Ray, said Ray—listed as a native of Illinois—did not have a Southern accent. "Jim didn't drink, ex-

cept a little prison home brew," said the convict, who asked not to be identified. "He never talked about himself very much and never expressed any liking for music, dancing and he was too tight to gamble."

Galt seemingly was a free spender. Aside from the dancing lessons, which cost him about \$500 in California alone, he paid \$2,000 cash for a white Mustang that is now impounded in Atlanta, and attended the bartending school.

## RAY "TIGHT"

"He was tight as a tick," the Missouri convict said of Ray. "Boy, if you owed him money, even a few cents, he'd bug you to death."

The penitentiary inmate said he did not think Ray was the kind of man who would kill for profit. And the warden, Harold Swenson, who remembers Ray, added, "It's odd, but I won't believe he did it (killed King) until it is proven."

"None of the inmates gave us any feedback after the first pictures of Ray were published. They usually talk about an inmate after he's done something. They really blab about it. But while he's doing something, you don't hear a word."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

THE CLARION LEDGER

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APR 23 1968

FBI — JACKSON

ed ~~mild~~ depressions, but not of psychotic proportions."

Ray's IQ was listed as 105, considered normal.

In a separate psychological report, Dec. 20, 1966, for the Missouri State Board of Probation and Parole, Ray was reported to have a number of complaints, such as pain in the "solar plexus (pit of the stomach), tachycardia (rapid heart action), and intracranial (inside the skull) tension."

#### "READ UP"

"When we commented that these were rather large words, he said he had been reading up in the medical literature," the report said. It added that at certain times, Ray thought he had cancer or heart trouble.

Ray was examined at State Hospital No. 1 at Fulton, Mo., from Sept. 8, 1966 to Oct. 17, 1966. Dr. Donald B. Peterson, hospital superintendent, said they had been asked only to determine whether Ray was mentally capable of standing trial.

"He showed no more nervousness than the average person awaiting trial," Dr. Peterson said. "He was rather reserved, but we just didn't find anything unusual."

#### NO KILLER

"There was nothing in his mental makeup or background to indicate anything but a recidivistic (habitual) criminal whose crimes were all associated with money. We didn't find anything to indicate he was a killer or had tendencies to kill."

The official report from the hospital said Ray had "no hallucinations or illusions, was oriented as to time, place and person." His "mood effect" was described as "somewhat tense and anxious and at times show-

Ray was never married, but lived for brief periods with women, the report said. It added: "This man's basic problem revolves around what appears to be an increasingly severe obsessive, compulsive trend."

"He states that at the age of 10 he awoke one night and thought he had lost his eyesight. He became quite fearful. These various fears confront him from time to time and in a typical obsessive way. He feels he must do certain things in order to undo what he feels is going to occur and might result in harm to him."

The report recommended that Ray not be granted parole.

Ray tried unsuccessfully to escape from the penitentiary on Nov. 19, 1961, eight months after he was admitted, and on April 11, 1966. He succeeded between 2 and 3 p.m. on April 23, 1967, apparently by hiding in a three-by-five foot wooden bread box. He was working in the penitentiary bakery at the time.



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

**BULLETIN**

WASHINGTON—AP—THE FBI HAS IDENTIFIED ERIC STARVO GALT, WANTED IN THE SLAYING OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, AS JAMES EARL RAY. THE FBI SAYS THE 40-YEAR-OLD RAY IS A FUGITIVE FROM THE MISSOURI ~~STATE~~ PENITENTIARY.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

JACKSON DAILY NEWS

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Editor: JAMES M. WARD

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| APR 22 1968   |         |
| FBI - JACKSON |         |

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## Developments In Spreading Hunt For Galt:

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)

The nation's police agencies intensified a nationwide search today for Eric Starvo Galt, the elusive fugitive sought in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

They were aided by thousands of wanted posters, just gaining wide distribution two days after the FBI publicly identified Galt, 36, as the man it had sought secretly since a week after the April 4 slaying.

The FBI refused comment on queries about whether it believes Galt is the man's real name or was simply a cover built painstakingly over a number of months by the beer-drinking lover of hillbilly music.

Two aliases—John Willard and Harvey Lowmyer—were listed on the federal conspiracy warrant issued against Galt in Birmingham, Ala., Wednesday afternoon and the first degree murder warrant issued by the state against him here Wednesday night.

"John Willard" was the name used by the man who checked into a Main Street rooming house three hours before King was shot as he stood on the balcony of a motel here. There has been no reference to the second alias.

The federal agency denied a report that it had taken into custody the man it said Galt described as his brother and that the brother was aiding in the search. The federal warrant, issued Wednesday, claimed that Galt and the brother entered into a conspiracy March 29 to violate King's civil rights.

The FBI covered many specific details about Galt's life over the past several years in its release including the fact that he is an avid dancer, has "rural speech," apparently lacks education and has a "nervous habit of pulling at an ear lobe with his left hand."

But except for his age, the FBI's statement was void of vital statistics, including Galt's birthplace or of any details of his movement prior to 1964.

The statement disclosed for the first time that Galt was in Memphis the day before King was shot, although he did not move into the rooming house from which the fatal bullet was fired until the day of the assassination.

A night clerk at a motel here said that a man registered there as "Eric S. Galt" the day before the slaying, but stayed in his room all night and received no visitors.

There were these other developments.

The U.S. attorney's office in Kansas City quoted an informant of "apparent reliability" as saying King was among persons marked for death if Robert Ralvar Depugh, leader of the militant rightwing Minutemen organization, ever went to jail.

The statement was included in a court motion to dismiss an appeal from Depugh on a conviction for a National Firearms Act violation.

—A Birmingham man who said he had a brief business dealing with Galt told reporters that the hunted man once told him he had a wife living in the Rocky Ridge section of the Alabama City. There was no official confirmation.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

JACKSON DAILY NEWS

JACKSON, MISS.

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| APR 22 1968                                    |                                             |
| FBI — JACKSON                                  |                                             |

157-9586-571-39

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## Atlanta Taxi Cab Driver Quizzed By FBI

ATLANTA, Ga. (AP) — An Atlanta taxi driver said Tuesday night he hauled a man matching an FBI sketch on a short trip in northeast Atlanta the night after Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was slain.

The driver, who asked that his name not be used, said an FBI agent questioned him about another fare he had on Friday night, April 5, before showing him the sketch which he immediately identified.

He said he recognized the sketch, which appeared to be a composite photograph, as a man he had picked up at a coffee shop in Atlanta's "hippie" district and carried two blocks.

The driver said the man appeared to be in a hurry.

"He told me to make a right hand turn, and he'd let me know when to stop," the driver said. "I went about two blocks, and he told me he wanted to get out.

"When I stopped, he opened the door, and I turned around to make sure I got my fare. I got a good look at him. I put my hand out, but he threw the money on the seat and it fell on the floor," the driver said. "That made me mad. That's the main reason I remember him so well."

"He just seemed to be in a hurry," the driver said, adding that he did not know where the man went after leaving the cab.

The taxi driver's report came as FBI agents continued an intensive search for the assassin of the famous civil rights leader.

The taxi driver said FBI agents had continuously pored over the taxi company's "trip sheets" since agents impounded a white Mustang last Thursday in Atlanta. The car fit the description of a car which was seen leaving the scene after King was killed April 4 by a sniper firing from a rooming house in Memphis, Tenn.

The FBI declined comment on the taxi driver's report.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 17

NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT

NATCHEZ, MISS.

Date: 4/18/68

Edition:

Author:

Editor: JAMES W. LAMBERT  
Title: ASSASSINATION OF  
MARTIN LUTHER KING

Character:

or

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| APR 22 1968          |                   |
| FBI — JACKSON        |                   |

157-9586-SF1-38

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Memphis Charges Murder—

# Charge Conspiracy In King Slaying

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — A federal complaint Wednesday charged the mysterious Eric Starvo Galt, a white man who has been hunted for a week, with conspiracy in the April 4

sniper assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Five hours later state authorities in Memphis, Tenn., issued a warrant charging Galt with first degree murder.

The FBI complaint charges that Galt and a man who Galt claimed was his brother entered into a conspiracy about March 29 in Birmingham. A warrant for Galt's arrest was issued in Birmingham.

There was no indication from the FBI that other persons would be charged with the conspiracy. The second man that Galt said was his brother was not identified, nor charged.

A witness in Memphis, Tenn., where King was killed, said an FBI photograph of the wanted man does not resemble the man seen leaving the scene after the shooting.

"Unless he was wearing a wig or had had a face lift or something, it's not the man I saw," said Charles Q. Stevens, a resident of the Main Street rooming house from which the sniper was believed to have shot King.

"The hair is too full and the face is too young," said Stevens. He said he only got a side view of the fleeing man, however.

The FBI did not indicate when the photo was made, but a source said it was taken within the past three months.

In Birmingham, Galt's landlord for six weeks last fall, Peter Cherpes, told The Associated Press that the FBI photo might be a picture of Galt. "It's very near, but I'm not sure," said Cherpes. He remembered his boarder's hair being much lighter. The FBI description said, "Galt has brown hair."

The AP reported Monday that Cherpes had identified FBI drawings as the Eric Galt who had lived at the Birmingham rooming house from Aug. 26 to Oct. 7, 1967.

An Atlanta taxicab driver said an FBI picture he identified as a two-druck fare the night after the slaying was different from the one released Wednesday. "That is definitely not the man I picked up," the cab driver said.

Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark, who went to Memphis after the slaying of the civil rights leader, announced in a statement released by the FBI that Galt was being sought as a fugitive on the charge of conspiring to injure, oppress, threaten or intimidate King in the exercise of a federal right, "namely, the right to freely travel from state to state."

The FBI declined to comment on whether there might be an early arrest or if the filing of the charge and release of information indicated little headway was being made in finding Galt.

It was the first disclosure that authorities had evidence of a conspiracy in King's slaying. An early statement by Clark referred to "one man on the run," though this was dropped from a later statement.

FBI director J. Edgar Hoover said in the Wednesday release that Galt bought a rifle in Birmingham about March 30. Only a few weeks before, the statement said, Galt had graduated from a school of bartending in Los Angeles.

Galt had told acquaintances in Birmingham that he worked in shipyards or on ships, and on a driver's license application he put "merchant seaman, unemployed."

In Hollywood, director Tomas Reyes Lau of the International School of Bartending, said Galt graduated March 2 and disappeared after refusing a job. Lau said Galt was an excellent student.

"He never said anything about Negroes," Lau said. There were no Negroes in the class. King, a Negro, was in Memphis to aid striking garbage workers, most of them Negroes.

The FBI said Galt also was known as "Harvey Lowmyer and John Willard."

An FBI statement said Galt has given his date of birth as July 20, 1931, has brown hair, wears his hair in a brush cut, reportedly has blue eyes, a straight narrow nose, is between 5-feet-8 and 5-feet-11 and weighs between 160 and 175 pounds.

The FBI said "the fugitive is said to have a nervous habit of occasionally pulling at an ear lobe with his left hand. His left ear protrudes farther from his head than his right ear."

The FBI statement said that Galt, on or about March 30, bought a rifle at Birmingham. The bureau did not say specifically that this was the rifle that killed King.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT

NATCHEZ, MISS.

Date: 4/18/68

Edition:

Author:

Editor: JAMES W. LAMBERT  
Title: ASSASSINATION OF  
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FBI — JACKSON

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But the statement ~~said~~ <sup>sa</sup> ~~30.00 rifle~~ equipped with a telescopic site was found near a rooming house on South Main Street in Memphis immediately after the fatal shooting of Dr. King occurred." The rooming house overlooks the Lorraine Hotel and Motel where King was staying.

FBI agents have determined that the rifle was purchased from a Birmingham gun dealer March 30. The sight also was said to have been bought from the same dealer, whom the FBI did not identify.

The FBI said Galt owns a 1966 white Mustang with Alabama license plates which ~~was found~~ abandoned in Atlanta, Ga., April 11. It was bought from a private citizen in Birmingham last Aug. 30.

The car's odometer showed it had been driven more than 19,000 miles between late August 1967 and early April 1968.

The FBI said "Galt's travel in the Mustang included trips to Los Angeles, Calif., New Orleans, La., Birmingham, Ala., and Mexico as well as to Memphis, Tenn., and Atlanta, Ga. Galt was reported to have been in Memphis on April 3 and 4, 1968 and to have departed from there for Atlanta."

The FBI said also its investigation ~~had disclosed these~~ facts:

~~Galt has~~ <sup>claimed</sup> ~~to have~~ been employed as a cook on Mississippi River vessels and as a merchant seaman.

—He is said to be an avid dancer and took dancing lessons in New Orleans in 1964 and 1965, in Birmingham during September and October 1967 and in Long Beach, Calif., from December 1967 to February 1968.

—Galt left Los Angeles last Dec. 15 and drove his Mustang to New Orleans where he claimed he contacted either an engineering or a contracting firm. He left there Dec. 19 and arrived in Los Angeles Dec. 21.

—While in the Los Angeles area early this year, Galt took a course at a bartending school and was graduated March 2.

An FBI description of Galt said persons who have met him "describe him as a loner and state his language and diction have a rural quality and suggest that he probably does not have a high degree of education. He is said to drink alcoholic beverages and has a preference for vodka and beer. He is a fan of Western and country music."

The bureau warned that "Galt should be considered armed and dangerous," and any information concerning him should be furnished immediately to the FBI.

The FBI gave no further identification of the man ~~Galt has~~ alleged to be his brother.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# King's Killer Hides; Who's Helping Him?

As this is written, the man who pulled the trigger on the rifle that brought down The Rev. Martin Luther King is still at large.

The authorities seem to have a hot clue or two and they're looking all over the United States for the assassin, and there have been reports a man meeting the description given. Memphis police has been seen in Mexico, Atlanta and Miami.

Days have now passed and the assassin has not been apprehended.

This leads to the question as to whether a lone man under the circumstances could hide this long by himself and without assistance from some source.

It seems, on the surface, highly unlikely.

Without confederates, it would seem that he would have to go out for food, for man cannot exist without nourishment. It also seems rather unlikely he could have driven a white

automobile of a well-known make all the way from Memphis to Atlanta without someone spotting the car en-route. Certainly he would have to stop for gas and food, it would seem.

Likewise, it is rather outlandish to assume he could hide in a hotel or motel anywhere without someone seeing him, or his car.

There was also the report printed in Memphis that the city police radio had been interfered with right after the shooting. A message reported broadcast on the police frequency that a white car was chased north of town. The conclusion was that while police were rushing to the north section of town, the white car may have been speeding south, east or west.

The big question now is: Where is the assassin hiding? And if he is in hiding, who is helping him?

The answer, when and if ascertained, may be rather revealing.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 4

LAUREL LEADER CALL

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Editor: J. W. WEST

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| FBI - JACKSON |         |

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## In Memory Of Dr. M. L. King

By REP. ROBERT G. CLARK

"One writer has said, 'one generation succeeds another, as wave follows wave.' So it is that though we mourn the passing of one who has proven himself faithful, loving and kind, there remains another generation to succeed him, to follow the prints he has made upon the sands of time. But why should death be mourned when it is followed by immortality?

"When a man has made a choice of the path which this man chose, and when he walks that path with full determination to follow the arrow ahead, it is ~~no wonder~~ the hearts of those behind are sad, when he comes to his journey's end.

"A kind word, a helping hand, and a mind that led toward any who needed help—this was the life he lived and he so died.

"Not slothful in business, but with enough time to give full recognition to his religious convictions. He had served in many ways with civic and religious organizations, yet none kept him from his place as head of his home.

"His days were seemingly too short, but the hours of each day were put to use; that whenever the time would come when he would be no more, there would be no mourning at the bar.

"It is our hope that ~~those who~~ are left behind will catch the aroma of the not too fleeting winds as they carry his message of "work for the night is coming —

Not burn baby burn, but register baby register;

Not burn baby burn, but vote baby vote;

Not burn baby burn, but educate baby educate;

Not burn baby burn, but pray baby pray.

"Without turning back to bid us ~~farewell~~, may we continue to watch the distant ship that is carrying him out to the sea of Eternity.

"May each glance in that direction give us more determination to live our lives fruitfully—to live them well.

"Dr. King is not with us any longer, but we will continue to reap the dividends of those efforts for many generations beyond our memories. They will be like a tree planted by the waters — "I shall not be moved, I shall not be moved."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 8

LEXINGTON  
ADVERTISER

LEXINGTON, MISS.

Date: 4/18/68

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Editor: HAZEL SMITH

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APR 22 1968

FBI - JACKSON

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## Charge Galt With Slaying

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — The mysterious Eric Starvo Galt has been charged with conspiracy and murder in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



ERIC STARVO GALT  
(AP Wirephoto)

The FBI said in a fugitive warrant issued Wednesday night in Birmingham, Ala., that Galt, 36, conspired with a man "whom he alleged to be his brother" to violate King's civil rights.

The state charge of first-degree murder was filed against

Galt in Memphis where King, 39, Nobel Prize winning civil rights leader, was shot to death on a motel balcony April 4 by a sniper who fled from a nearby rooming house.

First-degree murder in Tennessee carries the death penalty although the electric chair has not been used in the state since 1960.

The maximum penalty under the federal charge of conspiracy to violate a person's civil rights is a \$5,000 fine and 10-year prison sentence.

There was no further mention in the FBI statement about the

alleged brother and no charge was filed against him.

### HOOVER

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover announced in Washington that the conspiracy to "injure, oppress, threaten or intimidate" King began "on or about March 30" in Birmingham.

The FBI statement said a .30 06 rifle equipped with a telescopic sight found near the rooming house shortly after King was slain, was purchased March 30 in Birmingham.

The statement did not connect Galt directly with the rifle.

The FBI released a photograph of Galt and solicited public aid in finding him. Whether this appeal meant the trail had become cold was unclear, but U.S. Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark told a reporter in Washington that he felt this was not the situation.

The FBI started hunting Galt a week ago. Agents even contacted persons named Galt in several states in an attempt to find him.

The picture—which had to have the eyes "opened" by an artist—brought uncertain responses from witnesses who were acquainted with Galt or saw the fleeing sniper.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

BILOXI GULFPORT  
DAILY HERALD

GULFPORT, MISS.

Date: 4/18/68

Edition:

Author:

Editor: E. P. WILKES

Title: ASSASSINATION OF  
MARTIN LUTHER KING

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586 SF1  
Submitting Office: JACKSON

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| SEARCHED <i>ll</i>   | INDEXED <i>ll</i> |
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| APR 19 1968          |                   |
| FBI — JACKSON        |                   |

157-9586-571-34



"Unless he was wearing a wig or had had a face lift or something, it's not the man I saw," said Charlse Q Stevens, who lives at the Main Street rooming house from which the fatal shot apparently was fired.

"The hair is too full and the face is too young," he said. But Stevens said he only got a side view of the fleeing figure.

#### PHOTOGRAPH

A source in Birmingham said the photograph was taken within the past three months, although the FBI did not specify when it was made. The photo has sharp contrast, making hair and features very dark.

The FBI, relying on witnesses apparently, said the fugitive had been described as a white man, 5-8 to 5-11, weighing 160 to 175 pounds, with brown hair in a brush cut, blue eyes, straight nose.

Persons who have met Galt, the FBI reported, described him as a loner with a "rural" speech and little schooling, fond of vodka, beer and hillbilly music.

The FBI statement also said, "The fugitive is said to have a nervous habit of occasionally pulling at an ear lobe with his left hand. His left ear protrudes further from his head than his right ear."

"Galt should be considered armed and dangerous," the FBI release warned.

Galt has used the names of John Willard and Harvey Lowmeyer, the FBI said. The assassin registered at the Memphis rooming house under the name of John Willard.

Details of the alleged conspiracy were missing from the FBI release, as were vital statistics, such as Galt's birthplace, formal schooling, employment. The statement said Galt claimed to have been a cook on Mississippi riverboats, a merchant seaman and "is said to be an avid dancer."

Galt, the FBI said, is the owner of a 1966 white Mustang with Alabama license plates abandoned in Atlanta the day after King was shot to death. The vehicle was left in the parking lot of an apartment project near the Georgia Capitol.

Two white Mustangs were parked near the rooming house shortly before the shooting, witnesses have said, and both disappeared minutes later. Some witnesses told of a man in a black business suit, neatly dressed, walking down the steps to the street, dropping a rifle and getting into a Mustang with either Alabama or Arkansas tags.

The FBI said Galt's car traveled more than 19,000 miles between Aug. 30, 1967, when he bought it in Birmingham and its abandonment last week in Atlanta. There were trips to Los Angeles, New Orleans and Mexico, the FBI said.

"Galt was reported to have been in Memphis April 3 and 4, 1968, and to have departed from there for Atlanta," the FBI said.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Has Galt Reached Mexico, Havana?

## Search Spreads Out Of Country

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP)—The Birmingham News said today in a copyrighted story that a gun which the FBI said was purchased in Birmingham, has been determined by ballistics tests to be the weapon used in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The News story said also that the search for Eric Starvo Galt, who is charged with conspiracy in King's death, has spread outside the United States.

Quoting an unidentified source described only as an investigator, the News said it is believed that Galt has fled to Mexico or Cuba.

"There's no positive trace. He just vanished," the News quotes the source.

The FBI has said previously that Galt, on or about March 30, bought a rifle in Birmingham.

The statement also said that a .30-06 rifle equipped with a telescopic sight was found near the motel in Memphis, Tenn., where King was slain.

Galt resided in a Birmingham rooming house from Aug. 26 to Oct. 7, 1967. The FBI said he took dancing lessons here from September through October. Several dancing instructors said they do not remember Galt.

The FBI has issued a complaint charging Galt with conspiracy and a warrant has been issued for his arrest after Memphis authorities filed a murder charge.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

— PAGE 1

— JACKSON DAILY NEWS

— JACKSON, MISS.

Date: 4/18/68

Edition: FINAL

Author:

Editor: JAMES M. WARD

Title: ASSASSINATION OF  
MARTIN LUTHER KING

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586 SFL

Submitting Office JACKSON

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| FBI — JACKSON       |                  |

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Two men say they told the FBI that a man identified as Eric Starvo Galt was a shy, quiet man who spent \$700 in three months on dancing and bartending lessons. The managers of a dancing school and a bartending school told newsmen Wednesday they

identified a former pupil to the FBI as Galt, who is wanted in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., April 4 in Memphis, Tenn.

Rod Arvidson, 46, general manager of National Dance Studios, said he notified the FBI Saturday after recognizing Galt from a composite drawing in a newspaper.

"He's certainly no mixer," Arvidson said. "He had trouble coordinating one foot with another."

A photograph of Galt circulated by the FBI was obtained Tuesday from the International School of Bartending, the school's director said. The director, Tomas Reyes Lau, said a man called Eric S. Galt was graduated from the Hollywood school March 2 after an excellent record in a \$225 four-week course, which he attended Saturday mornings and Sunday afternoons.

Galt's application listed his address as Hollywood and his birthdate as July 30, 1931 and stated he was single. The FBI in Washington, D.C., said the wanted man was 36.

As a student of bartending and dancing, not only Lau and Arvidson but two dance instructors agreed Galt was withdrawn and a loner.

"He just didn't show anything



ERIC GALT  
Running From The Law?

but a crooked smile and a fidgety manner," said an instructor, Kathy Nolan, 21.

Another instructor, Andreas Jorgensen, 46, also talked with newsmen.

Arvidson said a man who signed enrollment records as Eric S. Galt took "50 or 60" lessons in social dancing over a 2½ month period ending in mid-February which cost him about \$500.

Galt told Arvidson he had operated a restaurant-bar in Mexico, the manager said. But Arvidson, who is taking Spanish lessons, said Galt failed to respond when he put questions in Spanish to him.

Lau, a Mexican-American, said he felt Galt was intelligent. But Arvidson, agreeing with an FBI description, said Galt's grammar "was less than ideal, mixing tenses, double negatives and so on" with a slight Southern accent.

At the bartending school, a three-room building in an older business district, Lau said Galt, perhaps the best of seven students in his class, turned down a job offer after graduating because he wanted to visit his brother, presumably in the East.

But Lau said Galt promised to return and take a job.

In his application to the school, Galt listed three references. A person answering to one of the names on the application form answered a newsmen's telephone call but refused to say if he knew Galt. The others could not be reached.

## **~~NOT ON LIST;~~ HERE IS WHY**

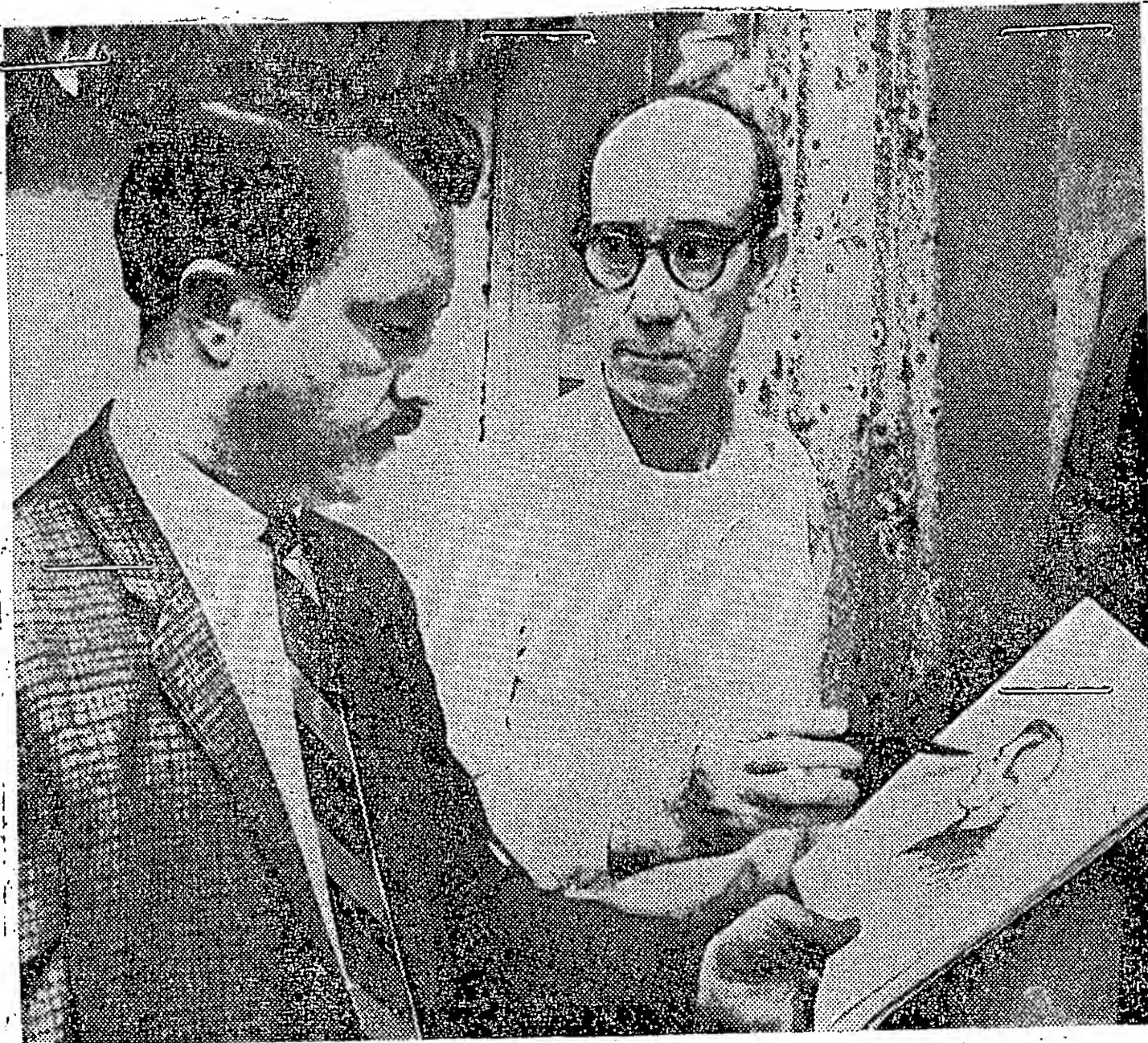
WASHINGTON (AP)—

Although he's the most hunted man in the United States, the name of Eric Starvo Galt does not appear on the FBI's list of "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives."

An FBI official said the principal reason fugitives are placed on this list is to "attract publicity for a guy you're looking for and in this case there's been plenty of publicity."

Furthermore, the list currently is filled. The latest to be added—as of today—is David Stuart Neff, 31, wanted in connection with two Massachusetts bank robberies.





## SAYS NOT THE MAN

Charles Q. Stevens (r.), whose description of Dr. Martin Luther King's alleged Assassin played an important part in the composite drawing by Bill Herrington (l.), staff artist of the Memphis Commercial Appeal, said Wednesday night the picture released by the FBI of Eric Starvo Galt was "not the man I saw." Stevens lives in the rooming house from which the fatal bullet was fired. Galt was charged Wednesday by the FBI with conspiracy in the case. Daily News-AP Wirephoto.



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Search For Galt Pushed

MEMPHIS (AP) — The FBI pressed one of the most massive manhunts in its history Thursday for shadowy Eric Starvo Galt, charged in the sniper slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

But little more was known publicly about the alleged assassin of the civil rights leader than when his name first arose a week ago. It was learned, however, that a man registered as Eric S. Galt in a Memphis motel a day before King was killed.

Police agencies continued their "no comment" handling of queries—including questions about a newspaper report that the search had spread outside the country, to Mexico or Cuba. And they were silent on any details at all about a man with whom Galt may have conspired in the slaying.

A murder warrant was issued here Wednesday night for the 36-year-old Galt, five hours after the FBI charged him with conspiracy to violate the civil rights of King. The FBI warrant charged him with conspiring with a man "whom he alleged to be his brother."

King was killed by a single bullet the night of April 4 as he leaned over the second-floor railing of a Memphis motel. Police have said the shot was fired from the common bathroom of a low-cost hotel across the street.

The FBI said Galt had used the names of Harvey Lowmyer and John Willard. A man registered as "John Willard" checked into the hotel just three hours before King was killed.

Ivan B. Webb, night desk clerk at the Rebel Motel here, said a man registered there under the name of Eric S. Galt on April 3. Webb said a white mustang bearing Alabama license plates and Mexican tourist stickers was parked near the room occupied by Galt. A similar car has been impounded in Atlanta, Ga., and the FBI said that car belonged to Galt. A white mustang is believed to have been the getaway car after the slaying.

The FBI declined comment on the possibility that a man who had checked into another motel April 3 might have been Galt's brother.

In Washington, Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark described Galt Wednesday night as white, a neat dresser, of apparently limited education and a man with a taste for vodka and beer.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

—PAGE 1

—THE CLARION LEDGER

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Editor: T.M. HEDERMAN JR.

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| FBI — JACKSON |         |

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

**KING DEATH****Atlanta Still The Center  
Of Search For Assassin**

By JOE ZELLNER

Associated Press Writer

ATLANTA, Ga. (AP) — An Atlanta taxi driver says an FBI sketch matches a rude patron who rode with him two blocks in northeast Atlanta's "hippe" section a night after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was slain.

He said the man he identified to an FBI agent in a sketch Tuesday was in a hurry and

rushed from his taxi, flinging the fare onto the seat.

The driver, who asked that his name not be used, said FBI agents have been checking taxi trip sheets since a white Mustang, matching the description of a car seen leaving the assassination scene in Memphis, was found abandoned in Atlanta last week.

The FBI continued its "no comment" policy. Atlanta police said they had received no information on the report.

In Birmingham Monday, the landlord of a boarding house said he was sure the description of Eric Starvo Galt fit that of a man sought by the FBI. "That's him, I'm sure," said Peter Chernes, 72, referring to the drawings.

The Atlanta taxi driver said the name Galt was not mentioned to him by the FBI agent.

He said the agent questioned him first about a fare he had carried from a nightclub near Peachtree and 10th Streets, but the driver said he knew the patron "and he was not the same man."

However, the agent then disclosed the sketch, which appeared to be a type of composite photograph, and the driver recognized him as a fare he had picked up between 10 p.m. and midnight Friday, April 5, about four blocks away at Peachtree and 14th Streets in front of a "hippie" coffee house. He said the man appeared to be in a hurry.

"He told me to make a right-hand turn, and he'd let me know when to stop," the driver said. "I went about two blocks, and he told me he wanted to get out."

"When I stopped, he opened the door, and I turned around to make sure I got my fare. I got a good look at him. I put my hand out, but he threw the money on floor," the driver said. "That made me mad. That's the main reason I remember him so well."

He said the man left the taxi and started down the street

and started away. "I don't know where he went," the driver said. "I drove off."

The driver described the man as about 5 feet 11 and 28 to 30 years old with dark brown hair.

"He was very neatly dressed," he said, adding that the man wore a sport coat with a light-colored shirt without a tie. "He looked as if he had had acne. It looked like little scars on his face from pimples."

The driver said he had seen several sketches. "News reporters haven't shown me any sketches of anyone I've seen,"

he said. "The FBI has."

However, he then looked at a sketch drawn by an artist in Mexican police headquarters after authorities in that country were drawn into the probe and said it contained some features of the FBI picture "mainly around the eyes."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 2

JACKSON DAILY NEWS

JACKSON, MISS.

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Editor: JAMES M. WARD  
Title: ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING

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Submitting Office: JACKSON

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| FBI — JACKSON |         |

157-9586-SF1-31

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Federal Officers Draw Blank In Galt Manhunt

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — Federal agents have scoured this city showing sketches of a man's face and asking about the name Eric Starvo Galt, the mysterious object of a hunt linked to the probe of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination.

What the agents have learned or what they want with Galt is a tightly kept FBI secret. "No comment," is all the FBI will say. Not even the local police have been asked to help in Birmingham.

Some key sources have been told by the FBI not to discuss their knowledge of Galt with any one. The FBI has collected the records of a rooming house, seized a car with an Alabama tag sold to Galt, and issued for four hours an alert for Galt in Florida.

Who is Eric Starvo Galt?

The name came up last Thursday on the Florida police teletype system from the FBI asking authorities to locate Galt. The message said Galt was driving a 1966 white Mustang hardtop with Alabama tag 1-38993.

At almost the same time the Florida alert went out, FBI agents in Atlanta were taking into custody a white Mustang

with Alabama tag 1-38993, sold to Galt.

The getaway car after King's April 4 slaying in Memphis was described by witnesses as a white Mustang with red and white license tags, like Alabama's.

Eric Starvo Galt's name appeared in official state records when he bought a white Mustang last Aug. 30 from a car salesman, William D. Paisley of Birmingham. Paisley would not talk about it.

Sources said the man called Galt paid \$2,000 cash for the car.

When he applied for a driver's license, Galt put down "merchant seaman, unemployed." The application gave his birthdate as July 20, 1931, and his description as 5-11, 175 pounds, blue eyes and brown hair—the same general description as a man seen fleeing a Memphis rooming house after the slaying.

Piecing bits of information together—and assessing the huge gaps, the phantom-like quality of the man—results in a sketchy picture of a neatly dressed man whose apparent absence of any kind of official records seems strange.

There has been speculation in the Birmingham News that a

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 12

NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT

NATCHEZ, MISS.

Date: 4/15/68

Edition:

Author:

Editor: JAMES W. LAMBERT

Title: ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING

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Classification: 157-9586 SF1

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| SERIALIZED <i>JK</i> | FILED <i>JK</i>   |
| APR 18 1968          |                   |
| FBI — JACKSON        |                   |

false trail was laid by the killer or killers.

But what of Eric Starvo Galt?

"My memory of him is so dim," said Charles Jack Davis, 26, a tile company employe who has a small second floor room in the boarding house where Galt lived at some time in the past year.

"I don't guess there's any such thing as a typical person," Davis went on. The best he could recall was that Galt's general description was brown hair and blue eyes, about 5-11.

Other boarders were unable to remember much if anything at all about the man who had occupied room 14 on the ground floor, but was gone apparently for weeks or months at a time.

Owner-manager Peter Cherpes has turned his records over to the FBI and refuses politely to talk about Galt. He would not even say how much rent Galt paid, whether it was paid lately or if Galt still had the room.

Cherpes probably knew Galt better than any other person who has been found in Birmingham. Cherpes accompanied Galt for his driver's license examination last Sept. 6, records show. Only last March 1, a duplicate driver's license was

mailed on request to Eric Starvo Galt at the boarding house, 2608 Highland Ave.

Otherwise, Galt seemed to be almost a phantom.

At dry cleaners, service stations, apartment houses and other places in the southside area of the boarding house, no one contacted by The Associated Press knew anything about Galt.

"The FBI has already checked our records," said a woman cashier at a cleaners on 26th Street. "I've been here two years and we have had no Galt as a customer."

The man called Galt said he was a seaman, out of work, but the Maritime Union has no record of his name. He established no credit in Birmingham, so far as is known, and maintained only a safe deposit box at a local bank—no checking or savings account.

Neither was there a trace of the man called Galt in state birth records, Veterans' Administration files or police records. No one by that name has filed out an income tax return for the state back to 1963.

Most of the Birmingham hospital files were checked and show no Eric Starvo Galt.

There is one Galt listed in the city telephone directory: The Rev. Ralph M. Galt, a white minister of the United Church of Christ and instructor at Miles College, a predominantly Negro private school in Birmingham.

"Who, and where, is Eric Starvo Galt?"



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Memphis Charges Galt With Murder

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

THE CLARION LEDGER

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: 4/18/68

Edition: HOME

Author:

Editor: T.M. HEDERMAN JR.

Title: ASSASSINATION OF  
MARTIN LUTHER KING

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| APR 18 1968         |                  |
| FBI — JACKSON       |                  |

157-9586-671-29

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## FBI Question Many In Slaying But Tell Little

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — Residents of a Memphis rooming house from which Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was shot eight days ago said Friday federal agents had shown them composite drawings of the white man sought in the assassination. They were mostly noncommittal, although one said he recognized a profile drawing.

As the FBI pressed its investigation—turning aside all queries in Memphis, Atlanta, Birmingham, Miami and Washington—there were these developments:

—In Atlanta, a Methodist minister said he hesitated before telling police about an abandoned white Mustang which federal agents impounded from a parking lot near the Georgia State Capitol. Witnesses in Memphis told investigators earlier they saw a man drive away from the rooming house in a white Mustang.

—In Miami, the FBI issued, then withdrew, a request that Florida police help locate Eric Starvo Galt, whose last known address was Birmingham, Ala. The teletypewriter message, withdrawn with the explanation that it was erroneous, said Galt

was driving a white Mustang.

Records in Alabama show that Galt bought a 1966 Mustang in August 1967. Other documents show that Galt listed his occupation as "merchant seaman, unemployed," when he applied for a driver's license in Birmingham in September 1967.

Charles Q. Stevens, who lives with his wife in a two-room apartment next door to the communal bathroom from which the fatal shot was believed fired, said FBI agents had shown them two composite drawings—one a partial profile and the other a full face view.

Stevens, who reported seeing the gunman fleeing said he recognized the side view drawing but not the full face view. He said agents had questioned him many times—"more times than the curly hairs I have on my head."

Mrs. Bessie Brewer, manager of the rooming house, also said she had been shown composite drawings. But she said she couldn't recall whether FBI agents or newsmen had shown her the drawings.

From behind a locked screen door to her combination office-living quarters, she refused to answer further questions.

King was killed by a single rifle shot as he stood outside his room in a motel about 200 feet from the rooming house bathroom window. A rifle was recovered from the sidewalk next door to the rooming house.

In Atlanta, The Rev. Ike Powell told The Associated Press Friday he notified police about the abandoned white Mustang Thursday after receiving a call from a member of his Inner City Methodist Church.

"They sent two detectives over there and two more came while we were there," the Rev. Mr. Powell said. "They went over it, checked around, and didn't appear too excited."

But ~~he~~ said FBI agents arrived later and were "all over the place." The car bore 1968 Alabama license tags and two stickers which said "Turista," he said. Earlier reports indicated the investigation had spread to Mexico.

The Rev. Mr. Powell said the car was towed away between 5:15 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. At 5:22 p.m., the Teletype message was sent in Florida. It was withdrawn about four hours later.

According to a source in the Dade County Public Safety Department in Miami, the FBI bulletin began: "Reference locate and notify no warrant Eric Starvo Galt." It then described Galt and the Mustang and concluded: "If located notify Agent Charles Bell FBI Miami."

The Miami source said this meant the FBI "want him spotted, not picked up."

State records in Montgomery, capital of Alabama, showed Galt requested a duplicate driver's license and that it was mailed to him last month at 2608 Highland Ave., Birmingham.

This address is a large, two-story white rooming house. Peter Cherpes, who has managed the rooming house for the past eight months, declined to discuss the matter. "I won't comment on whether he was here—if he was here," Cherpes said. He added that he had turned over his books to the FBI.

Other Birmingham rooming house residents reported being questioned by the FBI, but said they had not seen Galt for about three months.

William D. Paisley of Birmingham, identified by records as the man who sold Galt a Mustang in August 1967, also declined to discuss the case.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT

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APR 18 1968

FBI - JACKSON

# Conspiracy Alleged In Federal Warrant

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — Eric Starvo Galt was charged with first degree murder late Wednesday in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. here April 4.

The state warrant was issued five hours after the FBI in Washington announced that Galt had been charged in a federal warrant with conspiracy in King's death.

In the first official mention of a conspiracy in connection with the April 4 assassination of Dr. King in Memphis, the FBI said the alleged plot involved also a man Galt described as his brother.

And the FBI issued a photograph which it identified as being one of Galt, also known as Harvey Lowmyer and John Williard.

The FBI said a warrant was issued in Birmingham, Ala., today on the basis of an FBI complaint which charged that Galt "and an individual whom he alleged to be his brother, entered into a conspiracy" which began around March 29 at Birmingham and ended about April 5 to "injure, oppress, threaten, or intimidate Martin Luther King Jr."

Galt was charged with conspiring to violate King's civil rights.



ERIC STARVO GALT

An FBI statement said Galt has given his date of birth as July 20, 1931, has brown hair, wears his hair in a brush cut, reportedly has blue eyes, a straight narrow nose, is between 5-feet-8 and 5-feet-11 and weighs between 160 and 175 pounds.

The FBI said "the fugitive is said to have a nervous habit of occasionally pulling at an ear

lobe with his left hand. His left ear protrudes farther from his head than his right ear."

The FBI statement said that Galt, on or about March 30, bought a rifle at Birmingham. The bureau did not say specifically that this was the rifle that killed King.

## RIFLE FOUND

But the statement said, "a 30.06 rifle equipped with a telescopic site was found near a rooming house on South Main Street in Memphis immediately after the fatal shooting of Dr. King occurred." The rooming house overlooks the Lorraine Hotel and Motel where King was staying.

FBI agents have determined that the rifle was purchased from a Birmingham gun dealer March 30. The sight also was said to have been bought from the same dealer, whom the FBI did not identify.

The FBI said Galt owns a 1966 white Mustang with Alabama license plates which was found abandoned in Atlanta, Ga., April 11. It was bought from a private citizen in Birmingham last Aug. 30.

The car's odometer showed it had been driven more than 19,000 miles between late August 1967 and early April 1968.

The FBI said "Galt's travel in the Mustang included trips to Los Angeles, Calif., New Orleans, La., Birmingham, Ala., and Mexico as well as to Memphis, Tenn., and Atlanta, Ga. Galt was reported to have been in Memphis on April 3 and 4, 1968 and to have departed from there for Atlanta."

## OTHER FACTS

The FBI said also its investigation had disclosed these facts:

—Galt has claimed to have been employed as a cook on Mississippi river vessels and as a merchant seaman.

—He is said to be an avid dancer and took dancing lessons in New Orleans in 1964 and 1965, in Birmingham during September and October 1967 and in Long Beach, Calif., from December 1967 to February 1968.

—Galt left Los Angeles last Dec. 15 and drove his Mustang to New Orleans where he claimed he contacted either an engineering or a contracting firm. He left there Dec. 19 and arrived in Los Angeles Dec. 21.

—While in the Los Angeles area early this year, Galt took a course at a bartending school and was graduated March 2.

An FBI description of Galt said persons who have met him "describe him as a loner and state his language and diction have a rural quality and suggest that he probably does not have a high degree of education. He is said to drink alcoholic beverages and has a preference for vodka and beer. He is a fan of Western and country music."

The bureau warned that "Galt should be considered armed and dangerous," and any information concerning him should be furnished immediately to the FBI.

The FBI gave no further identification of the man Galt has alleged to be his brother, would not say where it obtained the photograph, and would not disclose in what connection Galt used the lowmyer alias.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Cabbie Says Sketch Matched His Fare

ATLANTA, Ga. (AP) — An Atlanta taxi driver said Tuesday night he hauled a man matching an FBI sketch on a short trip in northeast Atlanta the night after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was slain.

The driver, who asked that his name not be used, said an FBI agent questioned him about another fare he had on Friday night, April 5, before showing him the sketch - which he immediately identified.

He said he recognized the sketch, which appeared to be a composite photograph, as a man he had picked up at a coffee shop in Atlanta's "hippie" district and carried two blocks.

## IN HURRY

The driver said the man appeared to be in a hurry.

"He told me to make a right hand turn, and he'd let me know when to stop," the driver said. "I went about two blocks, and he told me he wanted to get out.

"When I stopped, he opened the door, and I turned around to make sure I got my fare. I got a good look at him. I put my hand out, but he threw the money on

the seat and it fell on the floor," the driver said. "That made me mad. That's the main reason I remember him so well."

"He just seemed to be in a hurry," the driver said, adding that he did not know where the man went after leaving the cab.

The taxi driver's report came as FBI agents continued an intensive search for the assassin of the famous civil rights leader.

## CHECKED RECORDS

The taxi driver said FBI agents had continuously pored over the taxi company's "trip sheets" since agents impounded a white Mustang last Thursday in Atlanta. The car fit the description of a car which was seen leaving the scene after King was killed April 4 by a sniper firing from a rooming house in Memphis, Tenn.

The FBI declined comment on the taxi driver's report.

The driver said the name of Eric Starvo Galt, object of a wide hunt since the Mustang was traced to a Birmingham board house where he once lived, was not mentioned by the agent who questioned him.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

THE CLARION LEDGER

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: 4/17/68

Edition: HOME

Author:

Editor: T.M. HEDERMAN JR.

Title: ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586 SF1

Submitting Office: JACKSON

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| APR 17 1968   |         |
| FBI - JACKSON |         |

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157-9586-SF1-26



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Witnesses Cast Doubt On Picture

## FROM AP REPORTS

Two persons who have been questioned by the FBI said Wednesday night that the picture of Eric Starvo Galt released by the agency does not resemble the man they saw.

In Memphis, a witness said the photo does not resemble the man he saw leaving the scene shortly after the slaying.

And in Atlanta, a taxi driver said an FBI picture he identified as a man he hauled two blocks the night after King was assassinated was different from the picture released by the FBI Wednesday.

"Unless he was wearing a wig or had a face lift or something, it's not the man I saw," said Charles Q. Stevens, who lives in the second floor rooming house from which the fatal bullet is thought to have been fired.

"The hair is too full and the face is too young," Stevens said after viewing the picture.

Stevens, who said he got only a side view of the killer, had contributed to the description used in composite drawings of the alleged assassin.

Bessie Brewer, operator of the rooming house, said she was unable to tell if the picture was of the man who registered un-

der the name of John Willard the afternoon of April 4, three hours before King was killed, and left immediately after the shooting.

"I don't know," she said. "I couldn't tell you to save my soul."

The FBI did not indicate when the picture of Galt it released was taken, or under what circumstances the photograph was obtained.

"The one the FBI showed me was much younger. The face was much thinner. The cheeks weren't as fleshy," said the driver, who has asked that he not be identified.

Looking at an Associated Press wirephoto copy of the picture released by the FBI in Washington, he said, "That is definitely not the man I picked up and not the one they showed me. The only time I've ever seen that was on television to-night."

Describing the FBI print shown to him, he said, "It had a necktie, not a bow tie. The tie was on crooked. It had been pulled over to the side. The hair was the same color but it was flatter on top. This man looks older. The other was about 28 to 30, no older than 35."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

THE CLARION LEDGER

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# Who Is Eric Galt? FBI

## Remains Silent

### Link To King Death Could Be Fictitious

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — Federal agents have scoured this city showing sketches of a man's face also asking about the name Eric Starvo Galt, the mysterious object of a hunt linked to the probe of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination.

~~What the~~ agents have learned or what they want with Galt is a tightly kept FBI secret. "No comment," is all the FBI will say. Not even the local police have been asked to help in Birmingham.

Some key sources have been told by the FBI not to discuss their knowledge of Galt with anyone. The FBI has collected the records of a rooming house seized a car with an Alabama tag sold to Galt, and issued for four hours an alert for Galt in Florida.

#### Who is Eric Starvo Galt?

The name came up last Thursday on the Florida police teletype system from the FBI asking authorities to locate Galt. The message said Galt was driving a 1966 white Mustang hardtop with Alabama tag 1-38993.

#### SEIZED CAR

At almost the same time the Florida alert went out, FBI agents in Atlanta were taking into custody a white Mustang with Alabama tag 1-38993, sold to Galt.

The getaway car after King's April 4 slaying in Memphis was ~~described~~ by witnesses as a white Mustang with red and

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

THE CLARION LEDGER

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# FBI Not Circulating Picture Of Assassin

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — The FBI is withholding nationwide distribution of a composite drawing of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassin, police sources said Sunday.

"They haven't given us anything but a physical description," said one police official. "They aren't handing out pictures of the man. They either don't have a good one, or they're going it alone."

The official asked that his name not be used, citing the FBI's ban on comment about the investigation.

When Jacksonville, Fla., police questioned a Louisville, Ky., man Saturday night about the King slaying — the man since has been cleared of any connection — Police Lt. M.P. Richardson said, "It's a long shot, but he looks too much like the sketch of the man who is wanted in the King slaying."

## NOTED LIKENESS

Jacksonville police said Sunday the man was arrested after a resident noted a likeness to a composite picture which appeared in Florida newspapers. This sketch was prepared by a newspaper artist from the description given of the slaying. It was not released — nor endorsed — by the FBI.

Residents of the Memphis

rooming house from which King was shot April 4 reported last week that investigators had shown them composite drawings. But they said the sketches were the same — or at least very similar — as those prepared by newspaper artists.

FBI officials rejected reporters' requests for a composite drawing of the man they are seeking in what perhaps is the most massive manhunt of modern times. They refuse to say whether they have prepared such a sketch.

Agents have a good physical description of the King assassin: 30 to 32 years old, 5 feet, 10 inches tall, weighing 165 pounds, with a receding hairline and a long, thin nose.

## CAR DESCRIPTION

They also have a good description of the white 1966 Mustang which witnesses said sped away from the Memphis rooming house minutes after King was shot as he stood on a motel balcony 205 feet from the rear of the rooming house.

A white Mustang was impounded Thursday night from an Atlanta parking lot where it had been parked since the morning after King's slaying.

The impounded car ~~has~~ has license tags issued in Birmingham, Ala., to Eric Starvo Galt, 37, who identified himself as an unemployed merchant seaman when he applied for an Alabama driving license last year.

At almost the same moment last week that they were impounding the car in Atlanta, the FBI sent over the Florida Teletypewriter circuit a request to locate Galt. The message was withdrawn four hours later with the explanation it was erroneous. ~~The FBI refuses to say~~ why it was seeking Galt.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

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| APR 15 1968   |         |
| FBI — JACKSON |         |

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## Finding The Assassin, Grueling Police Job

By BILL JOHNSON

Associated Press Writer

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) —

The task of finding the person who killed Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. apparently has settled down to the grueling police routine of sifting every clue and checking every lead.

There was no talk of an early arrest, as there had been shortly after King was assassinated last Thursday night. Robert G. Drewry and John C. Moore, the two U.S. commissioners here, said they had not been approached to issue a fugitive warning by either the FBI or the U.S. attorney.

As federal officials pressed their manhunt, there were reports of arrests in various parts of the country and of a widespread search in Mexico.

The Mexican rumor started after Rolando Veloz, the Mexican counsel here, told authorities there was a resemblance between a composite sketch carried in a local newspaper and a young man who applied for a tourist card the day before King was shot.

The young man turned out to be a 19-year-old student at Memphis State University, Memphis police said. They said what was thought to be a false address and phone number were those of his father, in Park Ridge, Ill. They dismissed the possibility that he was connected with the case.

In Washington, the Justice Department denied that the investigation had extended into Mexico. The Memphis Commercial Appeal said however it had learned that the FBI had contacted the central police office in Mexico City.

It was learned that the gun

found abandoned in a doorway next to the building from which police say the shot was fired was not among those stolen from a sporting goods store two days before the slaying.

B.C. Dowdle, proprietor of the store, said a police detective telephoned him the serial number of the Remington pump action rifle that was found and asked him to check it against the numbers of the stolen guns.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 18

BILOXI GULFPORT  
DAILY HERALD

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## FBI Dragnet Spins Through The Southeast

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — FBI agents from Virginia to Florida were making an intensive hunt today for the mystery man whose abandoned white Mustang fits descriptions of a car seen leaving the scene of the Martin Luther King Jr. assassination.

The object of the widening search was Eric Starvo Galt, 37, known only as an unemployed seaman from Birmingham, Ala. A car registered in that name was seized by the FBI in Atlanta last Friday, eight days after King was shot to death in Memphis.

The FBI refused to acknowledge the hunt or to say why Galt was wanted. "No comment," was the routine reply. But Associated Press checks disclosed that FBI agents had contacted persons named Galt in several states including Virginia, Alabama and Florida.

An FBI alert for Galt was sent over the Florida police communications network last Friday, but withdrawn four hours later.

FBI agents have continued to inquire about Galt at numerous places including dry cleaners and services stations in Birmingham, where a man named Eric Starvo Galt rented a room at a Southside boarding house within the past eight months.

Meanwhile, in Jacksonville, Fla., a man picked up for questioning about the assassination was cleared, police said.

Agents have exhibited com-

posite drawings of a man's face, but no photographs, according to persons contacted in Birmingham.

At the same time, police sources in Memphis disclosed Sunday that the FBI was withholding nationwide distribution of a composite drawing of King's killer, who fired the death shot from a dingy second-floor bathroom in a rundown rooming house. King, leader of nonviolent civil rights forces, was struck in the neck as he stood on a second floor motel balcony facing the rear of the rooming house.

"They haven't given us anything but a physical description. They aren't handing out pictures of the man," said a police official who asked that his name be withheld.

"They either don't have a good one, or they're going it alone."

There has been no indication from any source contacted by FBI agents that the FBI has a photograph.

The assassin's description given by the FBI: 30 to 32 years of age, 5-10, weighing 165, with a receding hairline and a long, thin nose.

Newsman's requests for prints of the FBI's drawing were turned down.

Neither has there been a hint that authorities possess a photograph of the missing Eric Starvo Galt, whose name fails to appear on any official records except those showing ownership of the white Mustang found in Atlanta.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

JACKSON DAILY NEWS

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FBI — JACKSON

~~The car~~ was sold to ~~Galt~~ last Aug. 30 in Birmingham, records show. Sources said he paid \$2,000 cash. His application for a driver's license last Sept. 6 gave his birthdate as July 1931 and his description as 5-11, 175 pounds, blue eyes and brown hair.

Little else has been uncovered. Thous he listed himself as an unemployed seaman, the Maritime Union had no record of an Eric Starvo Galt. Nor was there a recipient by that name in the files of the state unemployment compensation office in Birmingham.

Roomers at the Highland Avenue boarding house where Galt had a room during the past several months were unable to recall much, if anything about the man, except that he was neat in appearance.

~~One striker~~ who ~~lives in~~ a weatherbeaten house on the out-

~~skirts of~~ Memphis talked briefly with a reporter, but asked that his name not be used because "I don't want trouble."

He said he was planning to go into the city today in search of part-time work. But he didn't have much hope of finding it. With a thousand men looking, part-time jobs are few and far between.

Inside the house, his middle-aged wife stood over an ironing board, stroking an electric iron over a child's dress. She has been taking in ironing—at \$5 a basket—to help support the family.

"It's been pretty hard but we're making it so far," she said, looking past shirts and dresses hanging from the door and window sills, watching her ~~five children~~ play barefoot in the brownish-red mud of the yard.

White businesses have been hit hard, too, by the pressure of a Negro boycott and white apprehension.

Figures on the business community's financial loss aren't available, but estimates range into the millions. On the day before Easter, clerks outnumbered shoppers in one large store.

"This thing has knocked the hell out of business," said a gloomy executive of a department store.

All this has come in a city ~~where the~~ white population—some 500,000—has generally

prided itself on its relations with just over 200,000 Negroes. Schools were quietly desegregated in 1961. Negroes have been on the police force since 1948. Three of 13 city councilmen are Negroes.

But today, as they have almost daily for weeks, garbage strikers plan to parade single file along the sidewalks in the business district. Carrying signs reading "I Am a Man," "Justice Now," and "Martin Luther King Did Not Die in Vain."

"I might have seen him in the daytime," said a boarder, Hill Hardy, who works the night shift at a paper plant. "But I don't remember him."

It was not too joyous an Easter ~~for families of the~~ garbage strikers.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

**U.S. MANHUNT****First They Wanted Him,  
Then Withdrew Bulletin****By GAYLORD SHAW**  
**Associated Press Writer**

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — The FBI issued, then withdrew, a pickup order for Eric Starvo Galt, a Birmingham, Ala., white man as the widescale investigation of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., entered its second week.

Federal agents refused to say why they were seeking Galt.

The bulletin distributed on the statewide police teletype network in Florida said Galt was driving a white Mustang. Witnesses in Memphis told investigators earlier they saw a man in a white Mustang drive away from the rooming house from which King was shot last Thursday night.

At about the same time the pickup order was sent in Florida, federal agents in Atlanta impounded a white Mustang that had been parked since last Friday at a public housing project near the Georgia state Capitol.

The message, withdrawn with

the explanation that it was released by mistake, described Galt as a white male, 36 years old, about 5-foot-11 and 175 pounds with blue eyes and brown hair.

This roughly matched the description circulated by federal authorities the night of King's slaying.

Special Agent John Hanlon of the Miami FBI office, who withdrew the pickup order about four hours after it was issued, said, "I cannot comment," when asked for further details.

The FBI in Memphis and Atlanta also refused to discuss the developments. In Washington, an aide said Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark would have no comment.

Clark said last weekend that

agents were on the trail of "one man on the run..." He said the man had used the name John Willard but "whether it proves to be the right name remains to be seen."

The Florida teletype message said Galt was last seen driving a white 1966 Mustang hardtop, Alabama license 1-38993. Birmingham police said this tag had been issued to Eric S. Galt, 2608 Highland Ave., Birmingham.

In Atlanta, the residents who first told police about the abandoned white Mustang said the car bore the same Alabama license as given out by the FBI and bore two stickers which said "Tourista." Earlier reports

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PAGE 1

JACKSON DAILY NEWS

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FBI — JACKSON

indicated, the investigation had spread to Mexico.

"The FBI was all over the place," before the car was impounded, an Atlanta witness said. He said the vehicle was towed away between 5:15 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Thursday—about the time the Florida teletype message was sent.

Witnesses in Memphis who reported seeing a white Mustang pull away from the rooming house said the car had a red and white license plate. Alabama tags are red and white.

The Birmingham address given for Galt is a large white two-story house in what once was an elite residential area. A red neon sign flashes the word "rooms," but a knock on the door was unanswered.

A Birmingham newspaper, the Post-Herald, said residents of the rooming house confirmed they had been questioned by the FBI. It added the residents reported they had not seen Galt for about three months and could not recall what type car he owned.

King was killed as he stood outside his motel room about 200 feet from the bathroom window in the rooming house from which authorities say the fatal shot was fired. Witnesses said the assassin walked out of the rooming house, dropped a bundle including a .30.06 rifle in front of a business firm next door and then left in a white Mustang.

King had come to Memphis to aid the city's 1,300 striking garbage collectors, 98 per cent of whom are Negroes.

Negotiations in the strike continued under the mediation of Under Secretary of Labor James Reynolds. Chief issues in the strike were demands for a union contract, payroll deduction of union dues and pay in-  
creases.



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

**KING CASE****Birmingham Man  
Linked To Probe**

MEMPHIS, (AP) — Residents of a Memphis rooming house from which Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was shot eight days ago said Friday that federal agents had shown them composite drawings of the white man sought in the assassination. They were mostly noncommittal, although one said he recognized a profile drawing.

As the FBI pressed its investigation—turning aside all queries in Memphis, Atlanta, Birmingham, Miami and Washington—there were these developments:

—In Atlanta, a Methodist minister said he hesitated before telling police about an abandoned white Mustang which federal agents impounded from a parking lot near the Georgia State Capitol. Witnesses in Memphis told investigators earlier they saw a man drive away from the rooming house in a white Mustang.

—In Miami, the FBI issued, then withdrew, a request that Florida police help locate Eric Starvo Galt, whose last known address was Birmingham, Ala. The teletypewriter message, withdrawn with the explanation that it was erroneous, said Galt was driving a white Mustang.

—Records in Alabama show that Galt bought a 1966 Mustang in August 1967. Other documents show that Galt listed his occupation as "merchant seaman, unemployed," when he applied for a driver's license in Birmingham in September 1967.

—In Washington, a Justice Department spokesman said he didn't consider eight days as a long time for such an investigation. He said 12 days passed before ~~arrests~~ were made in the May 1968 slaying of civil rights

leader Medger Evers, and more than five months in the 1964 slayings of three civil rights workers in Mississippi.

Charles Q. Stevens, who lives with his wife in a two-room apartment next door to the communal bathroom from which the fatal shot was believed fired, said FBI agents had shown them two composite drawings—one a partial profile and the other a full face view.

Stevens, who reported seeing the gunman fleeing, said he recognized the side view drawing but not the full face view. He p.m., the Teletype message was sent in Florida. It was withdrawn about four hours later.

According to a source in the Dade County Public Safety Department in Miami, the FBI bulletin began: "Reference locate and notify no warrant Eric Starvo Galt." It then described Galt and the Mustang and concluded: "If located notify Agent Charles Bell FBI Miami."

The Miami source said this meant the FBI "want him spotted, not picked up."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

—PAGE 1

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## FBI Pushing; Says Evidence Is 'Substantial'

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — FBI agents have uncovered "very substantial" physical evidence as they work "around the clock pursuing every lead" in the search for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassin, says Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark.

"The FBI is devoting every possible resource to this investigation," Clark said. "... While it remains impossible to predict when the killer will be arrested, I remain hopeful that it will be soon."

A Justice Department spokesman said the statement issued in Washington Friday night, Clark's first public pronouncement on the case in five days, was in response to newsmen's queries.

But Clark, like FBI officials, refused to answer newsmen's questions. "All I can say is no comment," said Robert Jensen, special agent in charge of the Memphis FBI office.

King was shot and killed by a sniper April 4 as he stood outside his motel room here.

In Washington, Rep. Charles W. Whalen Jr., R-Ohio, said a welter of "premature and contradictory statements" was clouding the investigation and asked the FBI to "set the record straight."

"The handling of the investigation and the efforts to apprehend the guilty person or persons hardly has been reassuring

to a tense and troubled nation," Whalen said in a news release.

The search for the assassin has spread hundreds of miles from Memphis, sources report, and involves thousands of investigators.

The scope of the investigation was evident Friday in both Memphis and Birmingham. Newsmen seeking to question persons who might have information about the case were told repeatedly: "The FBI has already been here."

At the Memphis rooming house from which the fatal shot was fired, Charles Q. Stevens said FBI agents had shown him two composite drawings of the suspected slayer—one a partial profile and the other a full face view.

Stevens said he could identify the partial view, but not the full face view. He said he saw the gunman flee after hearing a shot fired from a communal bathroom next door to his room. The bathroom window affords a clear view of the motel balcony where King was standing when shot.

And at a rooming house in Birmingham, residents said FBI agents had questioned them about Eric Starvo Galt, a white man named in an FBI bulletin issued, then withdrawn, in Florida Thursday night.

The message sent over the state police teletypewriter network in Florida asked help in locating Galt. It said Galt was driving a white Mustang.

Witnesses in Memphis told investigators earlier they saw a man in a white Mustang drive away from the rooming house. Records in Alabama show that a man named Galt bought a 1966 Mustang in August 1967.

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PAGE 1

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| APR 16 1968          |                   |
| FBI — JACKSON        |                   |

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## FBI Has Assassin Evidence

By GAYLORD SHAW  
Associated Press Writer

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FBI — JACKSON



### **Artist's Views . . .**

At left is Mexican Police Headquarters artist Sergio Jaubert's re-creation of physical features of man suspected of killing Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., in Memphis, Tenn., last week. Drawing was based on description supplied by FBI authorities. At right is conception of the man made by Memphis Commercial Appeal artist Bill Herrington based on description given by man who lives in the building in Memphis from where the shot was fired. (AP Wirephoto)



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## Search For Assassin Continues

By GAYLORD SHAW

Associated Press Writer

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) —

The FBI issued, then withdrew, a request that Florida police help locate Eric Starvo Galt, a white man, as the investigation of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. entered its second week.

Federal agents refused to say why they were seeking Galt, whose last known address was Birmingham, Ala.

A source in the Dade County Public Safety Department in Miami said the FBI bulletin began: "Reference locate and notify no warrant issued Eric Starvo Galt," then described Galt and the Mustang. The message concluded: "If located notify Agent Charles Bell FBI Miami."

"This meant they wanted him spotted, not picked up," the Miami source said. It was reported originally that a pickup order had been issued.

The bulletin distributed on the statewide police teletype network in Florida said Galt was driving a white Mustang. Witnesses in Memphis told investigators earlier they saw a man in a white Mustang drive away from the rooming house from which King was shot last Thursday night.

At about the same time the locate order was sent in Florida, federal agents in Atlanta impounded a white Mustang that had been parked since last Friday at a public housing project near the Georgia state Capitol.

The message, withdrawn with the explanation that it was released by mistake, described Galt as a white male, 36 years old, about 5-foot-11 and 175 pounds with blue eyes and brown hair.

This roughly matched the description circulated by federal authorities the night of King's slaying.

Special Agent John Hanlong of the Miami FBI office, who withdrew the pickup order about four hours after it was issued,

said, "I cannot comment,"

when asked for further details.

The Florida teletype message said Galt was last seen driving a white 1966 Mustang hardtop, Alabama license 1-38993. Birmingham police said this tag had been issued to Eric S. Galt, 2608 Highland Ave., Birmingham.

In Atlanta, the residents who first told police about the abandoned white Mustang said the car bore the same Alabama license as given out by the FBI and bore two stickers which said "Turista." Earlier reports indicated the investigation had spread to Mexico.

"The FBI was all over the place," before the car was impounded, an Atlanta witness said. He said the vehicle was towed away between 5:15 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Thursday about the time the Florida teletype message was sent.

Witnesses in Memphis who reported seeing a white Mustang pull away from the rooming house said the car had a red and white license plate. Alabama tags are red and white.

The Birmingham address given for Galt is a large white two-story house in what once was an elite residential area. A red neon sign flashes the word "rooms," but a knock on the door was unanswered.

A Birmingham newspaper, the Post-Herald, said residents of the rooming house confirmed they had been questioned by the FBI. It added the residents reported they had not seen Galt for about three months and could not recall what type car he owned.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

BILOXI GULFPORT  
DAILY HERALD

GULFPORT, MISS.

Date: 4/12/68

Edition:

Author:

Editor: E. P. WILKES

Title: ASSASSINATION OF  
MARTIN LUTHER KING

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586 SF1

Submitting Office: JACKSON

☐ Being Investigated

157-9586-SF1-16

|                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| SEARCHED <i>JS</i>   | INDEXED <i>JS</i> |
| SERIALIZED <i>JS</i> | FILED <i>JS</i>   |
| APR 16 1968          |                   |
| FBI — JACKSON        |                   |

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

**NO TRACE AT INGALLS****Drawing Of Killer  
Looked Like 'Galt'**

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — A boarding house owner disclosed Monday he told FBI agents investigating the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. that drawings of a man they were hunting closely resembled a roomer named Eric Galt.

"That's the man. The resemblance is close enough, I'm sure," said Peter Cherpes, 72, owner of the South Side boarding house where he said an Eric Galt lived for six weeks last fall, then dropped from sight.

Development Monday brought a deepening mystery to the background of the man called Eric Galt. He had said he was employed at a Mississippi shipyard, but there was no record of his name on the employee list.

**NO RECORD**

In Louisiana, where Galt had said he held a driver's license, there was no such record on state files. It was much the same story with other efforts to trace Galt.

Cherpes said he identified FBI drawings very similar to one composed by a newspaper artist from descriptions of a man seen

fleeing the assassination scene April 4 in Memphis, Tenn.

The FBI declined comment.

But, within a week after King's slaying, the FBI was hunting a man identified as Eric Starvo Galt, whose last known address was the Birmingham boarding house. The hunt had spread into several states.

An FBI "locate and notify" alert for Galt was put out last Thursday over the Florida police network, but was withdrawn four hours later as erroneous. At the same time, FBI agents impounded in Atlanta a white Ford Mustang with an Alabama tag issued to Eric Starvo Galt.

The abandoned Mustang matched the description of a suspected getaway car in Memphis.

**ASKED SILENCE**

Cherpes said he first was told not to talk about Galt. He said he asked the FBI two days ago if he could discuss the matter and was told, "We suggest you don't, but we can't keep you from it."

Cherpes said in an interview the man known as Eric Starvo

Galt had a room at the Highland Avenue boarding house from Aug. 26 to Oct. 7, 1967. "He registered here that he came from Pascagoula, Miss.," Cherpes said.

The boarder was "nice and friendly, quiet," said Cherpes. He described Galt as about 6 feet tall, 165-175 pounds, with blue eyes and light brown hair, a neat dresser and a man who kept mostly to himself.

Galt said he was employed by a shipbuilding firm, Cherpes stated, and thought it was "Ingalls iron works." Ingalls shipbuilding is at Pascagoula. A check by The Associated Press, trailing the FBI, produced no record of an employee named Eric Galt.

About a week after renting a room, Galt asked his landlord to help in getting an Alabama driver's license. "He had bought a car. He asked me if I could drive him down to take the test," Cherpes said.

Cherpes said he did so. That was Sept. 6, 1967, soon after Eric Galt had purchased a

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

THE CLARION LEDGER

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: 4/16/68

Edition: HOME

Author:

Editor: T.M. HEDERMAN JR.

Title: ASSASSINATION OF  
MARTIN LUTHER KING

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586 SF1  
Submitting Office: JACKSON☐ Being Investigated

157-9586-541-15

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|----------------------|-------------------|
| SEARCHED <i>PC</i>   | INDEXED <i>PC</i> |
| SERIALIZED <i>PC</i> | FILED <i>PC</i>   |
| APR 16 1968          |                   |
| FBI — JACKSON        |                   |

~~white Mustang~~ from a Birmingham car salesman. The driver's license application described Galt as 5 feet 11, 175 pounds, blue eyes and brown hair. His birthdate was July 20, 1931. The application also claimed Galt had held a 1962 Louisiana license, but no record of this was found.

#### CHICAGO PACKAGE

Within another week, Cherpes said, a package for Galt arrived from Chicago. It was a cardboard box about 2 feet long and 1 foot wide. But Galt said, "they sent me the wrong merchandise; I'm sending it back."

Cherpes said his boarder left in early August saying he had a job "in the ships" at Mobile, Ala.

About five months later, in February or March, a letter for Galt from Chicago arrived, Cherpes said, but was returned because there was no forwarding address.

The Birmingham post office could give no forwarding address for Eric Starvo Galt.

But a duplicate driver's license in that name was mailed to the boarding house address last March 1—~~nearly seven~~ months after Galt had gone. State records in Montgomery showed the license was mailed upon request made in person or by telephone and was not returned through the mail.

Little trace of Galt has been found otherwise, except for a safety deposit box he rented at Birmingham Trust National Bank. He went to the bank to open the box in August and again to turn in the keys in December—more than a month ~~after he left Cherpes' place~~.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Birmingham

## Man Claims

### 'It's Him'

### Identifies Drawing As Roomer Of His

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP)—The owner of a boarding house said Monday he had identified a drawing of a man sought in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., as a roomer known by the name of Eric Galt.

"It's him, I'm sure," said Peter Cherpes, 72, who runs a boarding house on Birmingham's South Side. Cherpes consented to talk after the FBI responded to his request to be released from a secrecy pledge.

Cherpes said FBI agents showed him drawings about last Wednesday, or two days before a car registered in the name of Eric Starvo Galt was found abandoned in Atlanta. The car, a white Mustang with an Alabama license tag, matched the description of car seen leaving the assassination scene in Memphis, Tenn., where King was shot April 4.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

JACKSON DAILY NEWS

PAGE 1

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: 4/15/68

Edition: FINAL

Author:

Editor: JAMES M. WARD

Title: ASSASSINATION OF  
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Character:

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☐ Being Investigated

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| SERIALIZED    | FILED   |
| APR 16 1968   |         |
| FBI — JACKSON |         |



Cherpes was shown a newspaper artist's drawing of the assassin Monday and he said it was such like the drawings exhibited by federal agents. Cherpes said the sketches "looked exactly like Galt."

The man known as Eric Starvo Galt has become the object of a widening search by FBI agents, who have been contacting persons with the same name or similar names from Virginia to Florida and sifting through dozens of stores and businesses in Birmingham for clues to the missing man.

The FBI issued an alert, called a "locate and notify" dispatch, in Florida for Galt last Friday at about the time the white Mustang was being impounded in Atlanta. The alert was withdrawn four hours later with the explanation that it had been erroneous.

Since then, the FBI has declined to say anything about Galt. There was no warrant for Galt, the FBI said last Friday.

Galt rented a room from him, Cherpes said, last fall, at about the time the hunted man obtained an Alabama driver's license.

He also purchased with cash a white Mustang from a Birmingham car salesman. He listed his occupation as merchant seaman, unemployed.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Hunt For Assassin Is Pressed Quietly

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — The FBI maintained a steadfast silence Thursday in the face of queries, rumors and reports about the gun and the bullet which killed Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. here a week ago.

It refused comment on whether:

—Ballistics test matched the bullet with a rifle found near the scene.

—Firearms dealers in Birmingham, Ala., had been questioned about sales of Remington rifles.

Both reports have been published but the FBI says they did not originate with its agents.

Shortly after King's assassination one week ago, police found a 30-06 rifle with a telescopic sight one block away.

## DROPPED PACKAGE

Guy Canipe, owner of an amusement company, told newsmen he saw a man drop a package in front of his store and drive away in a white automobile. He said he did not see the man's face. "I looked down and saw the barrel of a gun sticking out of a package," he said.

The New York Post reported Thursday that the fatal bullet was so badly deformed on impact that the FBI was having

difficulty determining if it was fired from the rifle Canipe saw discarded.

An unidentified Memphis ballistics technician was quoted here as saying the bullet was badly damaged when it struck bones in Dr. King's neck. Another published report said the bullet may have been soft-nosed.

Meanwhile, negotiators continued efforts to settle the nine-week-old garbage strike, which brought King to Memphis. Although neither side issued statements, the Memphis Press-Scimitar said it learned that much

There has been no indication of the discussion revolved around wages.

how the issues of union recognition and dues checkoff would be settled.

## OPTIMISM FADES

Frank Holloman, Memphis police director, said the morning after King's death that he was "optimistic" about the investigation, refused to comment Thursday.

"When I can make any comment without prejudicing the investigation, I will do so," he said.

King was struck by one bullet while standing on the balcony of his motel. Police said the fatal bullet was fired from a bathroom window in a rooming

house—within view of the motel balcony 205 feet away.

The killer was believed to have walked out of the rooming house, dropped the gun in front of Canipe's store next door and fled in a white Mustang.

But the Memphis Commercial Appeal reported Thursday that a second white Mustang with Arkansas license plates and also parked near the rooming house may have been the getaway car.

The newspaper speculated the man got into the second Mustang and fled. The river bridge leading to Arkansas is about two miles from the rooming house and King's motel.

Police refused to comment on their investigation into the possibility that a police chase in northeast Memphis—eight miles from the murder scene and 30 minutes after the shooting—may have been a decoy to allow the killer to escape.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 2

THE CLARION LEDGER

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: 4/12/68

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Author:

Editor: T.M. HEDERMAN JR.

Title: ASSASSINATION OF  
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Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586SF1

Submitting Office: JACKSON

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| SERIALIZED <i>h</i> | FILED <i>h</i>   |
| APR 12 1968         |                  |
| FBI — JACKSON       |                  |

157-9586-571-13

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## Another White Auto Was Seen; 'Getaway' Car?

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — The presence of a second white Mustang near the doorway which police say the slayer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., used to escape gave rise today to published reports that it may have been the getaway car.

The Memphis Commercial Appeal said the car with Arkansas tags and a similar vehicle, parked a short distance north, both left the scene within 15 minutes after King was fatally shot a week ago today.

Both vehicles were within 100 feet of the doorway to the second-floor rooming house where police said the assassin waited and shot King as he stood on the balcony of a motel across a rear street.

The killer was believed to have walked out of the Main Street entrance to the rooming house, turned south and dropped the murder weapon in front of a business firm next door.

Guy Canipe, owner of the firm, said he saw the young white man drop the package which contained the gun, but did not see his face.

The Commercial Appeal speculated that the man then walked

a few steps farther along, got into the dirty white Mustang with Arkansas tags and sped away.

The second Mustang, parked north of the rooming house entrance, also left the scene near the time of the shooting.

Police said they would investigate reports that a supposed police chase in northeast Memphis — eight miles from the scene — 30 minutes after the shooting may have been a decoy to allow the killer to escape.

A recording of the police radio dispatcher's transmissions showed seven calls in 12 minutes from a lieutenant's car in the northeast section of the city detailing the case.

The lieutenant said Tuesday he did not make the calls. This led to speculation that someone other than police may have sent the calls on the police frequency to draw officers away from the escape route.

The Mississippi state line is about 10 miles directly south of the shooting scene, and the bridge leading to Arkansas is about two miles southwest of King's motel.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

JACKSON DAILY NEWS

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: 4/11/68  
Edition: FINAL

Author:

Editor: JAMES M. WARD

Title: ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING

Character:

or

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Submitting Office: JACKSON

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| APR 12 1968   |         |
| FBI — JACKSON |         |

157-9586-571-12

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# King Slay

## Suspect

# Hunted In Florida?

## FBI Pickup Message Is Sent, Withdrawn

MIAMI, Fla. (AP) — The FBI distributed a teletype pickup order to Florida police Thursday for Eric Starvo Galt, then withdrew the message, four hours later because it had been released by mistake.

The message gave a description for Galt matching the description they circulated for the killer of Martin Luther King and said he was driving a white Mustang similar to that believed driven by King's assassin.

When asked by The Associated Press if they were releasing the identity of the suspect in the King murder, FBI Special Agent John Hanlon said, "I cannot comment."

~~Hanlon~~ issued a bulletin on the police teletypes about 9:35 p.m. withdrawing the message.

The original message signed by Special Agent Charles Bell, described Galt as a white man, born July 20, 1931, about 5'11", 175 pounds, with blue eyes and brown hair.

The message was originally put on statewide police teletypes at 5:22 p.m. Thursday.

The message said Galt was driving a white Mustang with 1968 Alabama license tags, 1-38993. The tag would have been issued in Jefferson County (Birmingham), as indicated by the "1" in front of the number.

No warrant had been issued for Galt, the message said.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

THE CLARION LEDGER

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: 4/12/68

Edition: HOME

Author:

Editor: T.M. HEDERMAN JR.

Title: ASSASSINATION OF  
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Character:

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Classification: 157-9586 SF1

Submitting Office JACKSON

☐ Being Investigated
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 SERIALIZED FILED

APR 12 1968

FBI — JACKSON

157-9586-S71-11



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

**VOICE OF THE PEOPLE****Let 'Do-Gooders' Stop Weeping  
Over Death Penalty For Murder**

Dear Editor:

We have been fed such a diet of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, since Thursday night, that we are just about surfeited. I am only complaining about the imbalance and excess. In the eyes of God, the greater tragedy is, not that Martin Luther King was no different, and no worse than the murder of Medgar Evers, or Victor Dahmer; and no worse than the murder of any other Negro, or any white person.

The ugly fact is murder and it is the ugliest fact in the world. The only way that the assassination of Martin Luther King, or the assassination of President John F. Kennedy can have any special significance is, that it symbolizes, in a particular way, every other murder committed in our broad land. Every other murder is just as bad as they are... or were. Instead of making so much of the murder of any one man, Kennedy, King, or any other, it is becoming high time for the whole American society to wage a moral war against the whole concept of murder. It is time that every preacher preached

on 1 John 3:15, "No murderer hath eternal life;" or Revelation 21:8, or 22:15. It is time that teachers made murder, its immorality, criminality and sinfulness, a matter of class-room instruction, and assembly programming.

And it is time that editors of newspapers and magazines made some good hard teaching about murder, a part of their editorial policy. It is time that "Do-gooders" quit weeping crocodile tears about the death penalty for murder, then pardoning a murderer as soon as he pretended that he was sorry and reformed. God said, "Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man." Genesis 9:6 When any man commits murder, he should be hunted down like a mad-dog, tried, convicted, and exterminated like the devil that he is.

Dr. C. M. Stulis  
Christian Minister. Baldwin,  
Miss.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 16

THE CLARION LEDGER

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: 4/11/68

Edition: HOME

Author:

Editor: T.M. HEDERMAN JR

Title: MARTIN LUTHER  
KING'S ASSINATION

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586 SF1

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| FBI - JACKSON        |                   |

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Second Night Of Riots; Hunt For Killer Spreads

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

JACKSON DAILY NEWS

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: 4/6/68

Edition: FINAL

Author:

Editor: JAMES M. WARD

Title: NEGRO DISTURBANCE

Character:

or

Classification: 157-9586st

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| SERIALIZED <i>h</i> | FILED <i>h</i>   |
| APR - 9 1968        |                  |
| FBI - JACKSON       |                  |

157-9586-541-9

# **\$150,000 Reward For The Slayer**

By JAY BOWLES  
Associated Press Writer

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — As waves of racial violence continued to break on a number of the nation's cities, Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark said the net for the killer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. had been spread "several hundred miles from Memphis."

The nationwide death toll from the street violence stood at 14.

Police expressed optimism in their search for the sniper who shot King Thursday and the reward for his apprehension grew to \$150,000. Civil rights leaders predicted that up to 40,000 persons would take part Monday in a march originally scheduled by King.

Police Director Frank Holloman gave no indication at a news conference whether the murderer would be seized "in the next hour, six hours, or 12 hours" but said they had a large amount of physical evidence.

Clark, in a whirlwind, eight-hour trip to the city, appeared pleased with the progress of the investigation. "We've got substantial leads," he said. "We're very hopeful."

The crisis precipitated by the death of the Nobel Prize winning civil rights leader led President Johnson to cancel his trip to Hawaii, planned as a preliminary to possible peace talks with the North Vietnamese.

The President declared Sunday a day of national mourning

for King, ordered American flags to half staff at U.S. military installations over the world and scheduled an address before a joint session of Congress Monday night on new proposals to ease the plight of the Negro.

The burgeoning 1968 presidential campaign came to a virtual halt with all major candidates canceling weekend appearances. Monday's opening day baseball games in Washington and Cincinnati were postponed. A third opener at Houston remained scheduled.

Americans throughout the nation stopped work, left classes and attended impromptu memorial services Friday as they

sought ways of showing their shock and grief at the death.

Meanwhile in Memphis, 330 local, state and federal law enforcement officials pressed the feverish search for the slayer.

King had returned to this Mississippi River city to renew a demonstration in support of striking sanitationmen, most of them Negroes. After his death his body was put on public view during a brief memorial service then flown home to Atlanta where a funeral service was scheduled Tuesday in his father's church.

As racial tensions here appeared to be easing today, civil rights leaders continued plans for the march Monday.

The Rev. James Lawson, a strike leader, said the demonstration was now planned as a memorial to King with 5,000 to 40,000 marchers expected from 11 states.

"Monday's march will go on in silence in memory of our great leader," declared the Rev. Ralph Abernathy, King's closest associate and his successor as head of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

Violence in Memphis began to subside as 3,800 National Guardsmen, augmented by 800 city policemen working 12-hour shifts, patrolled the troubled Negro sections. Another 1,000 Guardsmen from eastern Tennessee are to be airlifted in Sunday.

The toll from violence following the assassination stood Friday night at 229 ~~deaths~~, 30 persons injured and 136 arrested. A full curfew remained in effect during the hours of darkness.

Mayor Henry Loeb agreed to resume negotiations in the 53-day-old garbage strike after a meeting with 300 white and Negro ministers.

However, Loeb refused to meet the ministers' demands for a relaxed stand. The mayor has strongly opposed union demands for recognition as bargaining agent and payroll deduction of union dues. The workers also seek pay raises to \$2-\$3 an hour. They now are paid \$1.60-\$2.10.

Some 350 garbage workers and their supporters staged another of the street marches since the walkout involving 1,300 garbage workers, most of them Negro, began Feb. 12. There were no incidents.

The Shelby County grand jury returned indictments Friday against 16 persons on various charges growing out of the garbage dispute. One of the indictments was the first brought under the state's new antiriot laws.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## Have Clues In Search For Sniper

By BILL JOHNSON

Associated Press Writer

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — A neat, clean man with a long, sharp nose—the type of man who seems out of place in a flophouse—was the object of a widening search today as the assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



### Sniper? . . .

(AP Wirephoto)

Both U.S. Atty. Gen. Ramsay Clark and Frank Holloman, city police director, said they were optimistic of a break soon. But no arrests were announced and police declined to reveal details of their investigation.

King, the chief exponent of nonviolence in the civil rights struggle, was slain by a single bullet Thursday night as he leaned over the second-floor balcony of a motel, talking with aides on the ground.

He had come back to Memphis to lead a mass march in support of striking garbage workers, and he was killed just one week after another march he led flared into brief window breaking and looting in the downtown area.

As his body was borne back to Atlanta Friday by his widow in a chartered plane, union leaders and civil rights workers throughout the country contin-

ued planning for the Monday march.

Spokesmen said they anticipated that as many as 40,000 persons from 11 states would take part, following guidelines laid down by a federal judge.

King had termed the strike by the Memphis garbage men, 98 per cent of them Negroes, as the second phase in the fight by Negroes for equal rights. He said his Montgomery bus boycott in 1955 started the first phase, the fight for desegregation, and that the garbage collectors were now engaged in the battle for economic equality.

The bullet that killed King came from a communal bathroom in a flophouse behind the motel. Police were looking for the man who had checked into the place, paying for his \$8.50 a week room with a crisp \$20 bill.

Bessie Brewer, manager of the rooming house, told police the man gave his name as John Willard. "He was a clean, neat man," about six feet tall, she said.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

BILOXI GULFPORT  
DAILY HERALD

GULFPORT, MISS.

Date: 4/6/68

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Author:

Editor: E. P. WILKES

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| SERIALIZED <i>ph</i> | FILED <i>ph</i>   |
| APR - 9 1968         |                   |
| FBI - JACKSON        |                   |

157-9586-SF1-8



~~Charles~~ Q. Stephens, who had the room between that taken by Willard and the bathroom, described the man as "clean shaven" and that he had a "long, sharp nose. He had normal eyes and a square chin, thick hair at the front and receded on each side."

Others said they saw the man walk away after the shot was fired.

Clark, who made an eight-hour visit Friday, said evidence "indicates a single individual" was involved in the assassination. ~~"There~~ is no evidence of a widespread plot."

The investigation already has widened to several states, he said, and "will spread as far as the evidence takes us. It has already spread several hundred miles from the boundaries of Tennessee now."

Clark also said that evidence in the case was considerably more than police "usually get in cases like this," but he refused to elaborate.

"A number of studies of prints that may establish the identity" of the sniper are being made by police and FBI agents with the aid of the FBI laboratory in Washington, he said.

The object of the massive manhunt gave his name as John Willard when he checked into the flophouse at 422½ South Main. He spoke with a southern drawl described by the landlady as just "like any other Memphian."

B.L. Reeves, 74, a retired hotel clerk who said he watched the man as he talked with landlady Bessie Brewer, described the prospective boarder as 5-foot-11, clean-shaven, with a long, sharp nose, a square chin and thick dark hair, ~~combed~~ straight back and receding on the sides.

Mrs. Brewer said she showed him Room 8 a \$10-a-week room with kitchenette but quoted him as saying he wanted sleeping quarters only. She took him to Room 5, told him it would cost \$8.50 a week, and he took it.

He paid for the room with a crisp \$20 bill, Mrs. Brewer said.

It was from a second-floor bathroom window that he fired the shot which struck King as he leaned over the balcony railing outside his motel room.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Authorities 'Close' To Nabbing Sniper

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (UPI) — The landlady of the apartment house, Mrs. Bessie Brewer, 44, said the man who is believed to have killed King registered under the name of "John Williard" and that "he had a silly smile."

"I'll never forget that smile," said Mrs. Brewer. "He paid his \$8.50 week's rent in cash, with a \$20 bill and two quarters." Repercussions from King's death shook the nation. President Johnson pleaded again for racial peace, vowing that "America shall not be ruled by the bullet." He declared Sunday a national day of mourning.

Despite the plea, there was violence in major cities on both sides of the Mason Dixon line. New York's 28,000 man police force was ordered on emergency duty after a night of serious looting, arson and sniping, and there was daylight looting and violence Friday in the nation's capital.

Detroit, with a heavy Negro population, also was hit, as were such widespread spots as Baton Rouge, La., Boston, Mass., Raleigh, Charlotte, New Bern, Winston-Salem and Wilmington, N. C. and Tallahassee, Fla.

## Man In Custody

Mrs. John F. Kennedy, wife of the late President who was also killed by a sniper, joined the chorus of those pleading for calm. "I pray that with the price he (King) paid — his life — will make room in peoples' hearts for love, not hate," she said.

Longshoremen closed down all Atlantic, Gulf and Great Lakes ports until 8 a.m. Saturday in honor of King, and the National Maritime Union also urged its 55,000 seamen to stay off the job until 5 p.m. Saturday.

King was in Memphis to lead a protest march for striking sanitation workers, most of whom are Negro, when he was slain.

A demonstration he led last week on behalf of the sanitation workers erupted in violence, raising question whether he could control the Negro masses in the present racial climate.

This issue shaped up as especially important in view of his planned "Poor Peoples' " march on Washington later this month, so King returned to Memphis to prove his point that demonstrations, regardless of their size, could be peaceful.

The sanitation workers are striking for higher wages and the right to union representation.

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(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

— PAGE 2

— THE MERIDIAN STAR

— MERIDIAN, MISS.

Date: 4/6/68

Edition:

Author:

Editor: JAMES B. SKEWES

Title: ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING

Character:

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# King Prime Mover Of Social Upheaval

By JULES LOH  
AP Newsfeatures Writer

On a steamy afternoon in Selma, Ala., the apostle of nonviolence confronted a uniformed adversary who wore a badge that said "NEVER," Sheriff Jim Clark.

~~Toe to toe~~ they stood. The sheriff's face reddened, his neck muscles bulged. The Negro, eyes downturned, scarcely moved. Neither spoke. At length Sheriff Clark turned on his heel and those watching exhaled in relief.

"I knew," Martin Luther King Jr. said later. "THAT IF I looked Clark in the eye he would have hit me. He was so worked up."

Dr. King's death Thursday, by violence, has been called ironic but the truth is that violence continually stalked his life at a distance rarely more remote than the flick of an eye.

The greater irony was that he was murdered on a quiet balcony and not a teeming street. The street, public and often bloody, was Martin Luther King's chosen battleground, his brotherhood his rallying cry, di-

rect confrontation his technique.  
**BOLD TACTICS**

But his tactics, bold and unsettling when he first used them at segregated lunch counters and bus stations 13 years ago, only partly explain Dr. King's success as the prime mover of one of the most far reaching social upheavals in the nation's history.

Those who witnessed his crusades from up close tend to agree that Martin Luther King's most effective weapon was his own personal magnetism.

A crowd might be gathered, a plan charted, a dozen lieutenants on hand giving directions—rarely did the action start until Dr. King arrived and said go.

"The Movement," as the civil rights struggle came to be called, was in reality Dr. King's movement.

What was the nature of his appeal? What uncanny quality of his roused an army of Negroes to confront police dogs, fire hoses, fists, billy clubs, tear gas, boot heels, to echo his prophetic challenge "We Shall Overcome" and follow him not to a promised land of happiness, but to jail.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 14

THE CLARION LEDGER

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~~There's no bomb in Montgo-~~  
~~mery!"~~

Once Dr. King was asked about the origins of his philosophy of nonviolence. He recalled that he once clouted his brother with a telephone, but that on the other hand he frequently did not retaliate when the class bully beat him up.

"But I don't know whether that was militant nonviolence or whether I was just plain scared," he said.

#### RINGING ORATORY

Add to his knowledge of human nature his ringing oratorical skill, all the more convincing because of his own profound belief in his message and his cause, and one begins to get a measure of Dr. King's magnetism.

His chief aide and close friend, The Rev. Ralph Abernathy, once summed it up:

"His ability to articulate, communicate, to place in words the longings, the dreams, the hopes and aspirations of an oppressed people—that," he said, "is Martin Luther King's gift."

Not everyone, of course, was swayed by his oratory or convinced of his honesty or approving of his tactics.

FBI Chief J. Edgar Hoover called him the most notorious liar in the country and former President Truman called him a troublemaker. And one white tv viewer in Mississippi became so enraged several years ago when he saw Dr. King's image on the screen he grabbed his shotgun and blasted the set into kindling.

The violent reaction was extreme but not untypical.

"We do not seek to precipitate violence," Dr. King once said. "However, we are aware that the existence of injustice in society is the existence of violence, latent violence.

"We feel we must constantly expose this evil, even if it brings violence upon us."

His repeated plea was, "If blood is to flow let it be ours," and the people in the pews said "amen."

But when violence broke out he made the same plea in taverns and pool rooms, a cane-bottom chair for a pulpit, and processions of Negroes in those places also said amen and dropped their knives and brass knuckles into his paper sack.

When Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. spoke in a Negro church, sweat glistened on his brow and his oratory often slipped into a roughcut Southern vernacular. Thus he successfully concealed his intellectual acumen while sending his message to the depths of the Negro soul.

But he was, in truth, an intellectual and his understanding of human nature was profound.

He was able to skip the ninth and 12th grades of high school and entered Morehouse College in Atlanta at 15. He earned a bachelors degree there, then a bachelor of divinity degree at Crozer Theological Seminary in Chester, Pa., then a Ph.D. from Boston University at the age of 26.

Rarely, too, did the usually austere Dr. King unveil his wit. But it was there.

During the Selma-to-Montgomery march in 1964, for example, Dr. King was at the head of the long column parading down the highway when someone at his rear cried, "Let's sing 'There is no Balm in Gilead'."

"Let's do," called back Dr. King, "and let's also pray that



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# More Violence Predicted In Wake Of King's Death

The vice chairman of the "white racist" National States Rights Party predicted here last night that Martin Luther King's death will bring more Negro demonstrations and violence than anything since the Civil War, but added that his group welcomed the violence.

"King's death, I predict, will trigger off more nigger violence than we have had in the last year or in the last 100 years," J. B. Stoner said. "The black power niggers will now say that non-violence has failed and that violence is the only answer."

Stoner, who was in Meridian for an organizational meeting of the NSRP, told a small group that his party is a "white racist, anti-Jew" organization.

"We are white racists and we are proud to be white racists," he said. "The black supremacists are proud to be black supremacists."

"The National States Rights Party advocates an end to all friendship between the black and white races. . . an end to all relationship between the races," he said.

Stoner charged that King was not non-violent, but that King "like all niggers," hated the white people.

"King was not non-violent," he said. "All the time he was saying non-violence he was planning a communist revolution. King's war was bloody and violent. . . he wanted a bloody revolution."

"In this hatred for us they have brought about the second Civil War, and that's what we are now in," Stoner said.

"He has been a good nigger now since 6 or 7 o'clock tonight," Stoner said of King's death.

He said the NSRP welcomed the riots which are expected to follow and that they were glad to see others encouraging the Negroes to protest.

Stoner said that his group is planning marches and rallies of its own—beginning in May—in support of their "political" aims.

"For many years the FBI has guarded King's house and guarded him everywhere he went, and yet he is dead," Stoner said. "I'd rather die in combat than laying in a concentration camp."

He said the NSRP rallies and marches will start in Mississippi in May and "before the summer is over I think we can arouse the

majority of the white people in Mississippi."

Asked about reports that King's death might increase Sen. Robert Kennedy's chances of becoming the next president, Stoner replied:

"I wouldn't think so at all. . . I think the niggers were going to lay low all summer to help Bobby Kennedy, but now they won't be able to control them. They won't be able to control the nigger lawlessness."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 3

THE MERIDIAN STAR

MERIDIAN, MISS.

Date: 4/5/68

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Editor: JAMES B. SKEWES

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Neat, Clean, And A Killer

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — He said his name was John Willard and he spoke with a southern drawl. He wanted a room and Mrs. Bessie Brewer, landlady of the dingy flophouse at 422½ South Main, showed him two.

The time was 3:15 p.m., 166 minutes before an assassin's bullet

let felled Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on a motel balcony across Mulberry Street from the back of the rooming house.

This is the way the people of the rooming house recall the suspect, as reported by the Memphis Commercial-Appeal:

Mrs. Brewer —

"He was a clean, neat man. I showed him room 8, a \$10-a-week kitchenette, but he said, 'I only want a sleeping room.'"

"I showed him room 5 and he said, 'This will be fine.'"

"We went back to the office ... and I wrote out a receipt. He paid with a \$20 bill. He reached into his right pants pocket, pulled it out and unfolded it with both hands ... He spoke like any other Memphian."

B. L. Reeves, 74, retired hotel clerk—

"I saw him when she checked him in. He had his back to me, but I judge he was about 5-feet-11. He had dark hair and a pretty neat hair cut."

Charlie Q. Stephens, occupant of room 6—

"He was clean shaven and had a sharp nose. He had normal eyes and a square chin,

thick hair at the front and receded on each side.

"He was wearing a black (solid color) dress suit, a white shirt and a very dark or black narrow tie. He combed his hair straight back."



THE KILLER?  
He May Look Like This

When he checked in, the man did not have with him the pump-action Remington rifle and telescopic sight that killed Dr. King.

None recalled seeing him after that until about 5 p.m. Stephens said about that time the man went down the hall to the bathroom from Room 5. The distance is about 13 steps.

The second-floor bathroom window holds a commanding view of the Lorraine motel where King lodged, 205 feet and 3 inches away. Much better than from Room 5.

At 6:01 p.m. the shot cracked.

"I was in there (the kitchen) working on a radio," Stephens said. "When that explosion went off, it sounded like a German 88 I went to the door and walked out into the hall. I could see the man at the offset in the hall. He had in his hand something wrapped in a newspaper."

The man fled down 20 steps to the ground.

"I got a glimpse of him going away after he dropped the rifle in front of my place," said G. W. Canipe, owner of an amusement firm. "He didn't seem to be running."

A white Mustang with out-of-state license was parked to the north, in front of Jim's Grill, Lloyd Jones, owner of the grill, said it pulled away at 6:15 p.m.

"I didn't see who drove it," he said.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

JACKSON DAILY NEWS

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## King's Death Deplored In State Meetings

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Negroes and whites gathered quietly in Mississippi Sunday to pay tribute to the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King as the nation paused for a day of national mourning.

In Biloxi and Hattiesburg, biracial and interdenominational audiences gathered to hear eulogies and, in Hattiesburg, a declaration of a "new dedication to the principles of honor, respect and justice for all."

In Biloxi, an integrated crowd of about 3,500 people gathered in Biloxi municipal stadium to hear the Rev. John M. Aregood, a white minister who is president of the Gulf Coast Council on Human Relations, eulogize King as a man who "will always be remembered as a man among men." He "did what needed to be done," Aregood said.

The quiet crowd, gathered beneath a leaden sky, dispersed without incident after hearing Gulfport Mayor R. B. Meadows and Dr. Gilbert R. Mason, president of the Biloxi Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

In Hattiesburg, 600 Negroes and whites crowded into a Community Center designed to hold 300 to hear City Commissioner W. T. Harrington, acting as mayor, present a resolution deplored the "unlawful and tragic taking of the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr."

The resolution said, "We declare a new dedication to the principles of honor, respect and justice for all. These concepts are the foundation of human dignity and progress."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 4

THE CLARION LEDGER

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## Police Hunting Killer

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — A single white man, following an apparently well planned procedure, was the assassin Thursday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Police Director Frank Holloman said today.

Holloman said the investigation showed the assassin checked into a main street flop-house at midafternoon, shot King from a second floor window of the building three hours later and then disappeared in the resulting confusion.

The murder weapon apparently was a new .30-06 Remington pump rifle with telescopic sights, Holloman said. The assassin also carried a new set of binoculars and new suitcase.

A .30-06 Remington pump rifle was one of 15 weapons stolen a night earlier from a Memphis sporting goods store, but Holloman refused to say immediately that the stolen gun was the death weapon.

"As far as we know, and from the evidence at this time, there was only one man in the physical area of the slaying," Holloman said.

He said one of the 30 to 40 officers on duty in the vicinity of the motel saw the bullet strike

King and all immediately converged on the scene.

The fatal shot was fired from the window of a common bathroom in the flop-house, Holloman said. King's room was 205 feet away, through trees and across a street but in "clear" view of the window.

Holloman said the assassin was a white male, between 26 and 32 years of age, standing six feet tall and weighing 165-175 pounds. Police radios said he had dark to sandy hair, medium build, a ruddy complexion and was wearing a black suit and white shirt.

Holloman refused to disclose the name the man had signed on the register of the hotel, but said "certain evidence has been found."

The weapon, Holloman said, was sent to the FBI laboratory

in Washington for ballistics tests.

Shelby County Sheriff William E. Morris, asked if officers had a palm print from the weapons, replied: "We hope we do."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

BILOXI GULFPORT  
DAILY HERALD

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Editor: E. P. WILKES

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KING

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

'WE HAVE NAME'

# Feds Seek Lone Killer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark said Sunday federal investigators are on the trail of "one man on the run" in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and they are hoping for an early arrest.

"We have a name we're working on," Clark said. "Whether it proves to be the right name remains to be seen."

Clark said there is no evidence, so far, that more than one individual was involved in the fatal shooting last Thursday in Memphis of Dr. King.

King, in Memphis to lead demonstrations on behalf of demands by the city's striking sanitation workers, was killed by a single bullet which struck him in the neck and jaw as he stood on the balcony of his motel room.

A rifle was found abandoned nearby, and Clark hinted Sunday it may have been identified as the murder weapon.

Asked if ballistic tests had established such a connection, he responded, "Ballistic tests have been made and such evidence as they give will be used in court."

Clark discussed progress of the investigation on the radio-television interview program "Meet the Press", on NBC.

Since Friday, when Clark held a news conference in Memphis, additional evidence has been gathered, and "the trail has lengthened" that leads to King's killer, the attorney general said.

"We know quite a bit more than we did two days ago," he added.

But he declined to specify the places where the trail leads.

"We hope to have an early conclusion to the investigation, followed by indictment, trial and conviction," he said.

Clark indicated that, as is customary in murder cases, the eventual trial would probably be left to the courts of Tennessee.

The federal government could assume jurisdiction, Clark said, if there were evidence that justice would not be done by state courts. But he added, "I have no doubt that the authorities of Tennessee would prosecute this with all the vigor at their command."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

— PAGE 1

— THE CLARION LEDGER

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**TALKS OF ASSASSIN SEARCH** — A grim-faced Attorney General Ramsey Clark covers the microphone during an appearance on television from Washington. He said that federal investigators are on the trail of "one man on the run" ~~in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.~~ and hope for an early arrest. — AP Wirephoto.